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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH, 2015

Celebrating the Welsh language

IN BUSINESS UPDATE FEATURE

Fine dining for Valentine's Day

NATIONS: FIRST UP. ENGLAND! BACK PAGE COMMENT - PAGE 44

SAD CASE OF MAN WITH 'GREAT POTENTIAL'

Heroin addict receives jail sentence for drugs offences

A DRUGS user with previously unblemished record, has been record, has been jailed for two years eight months at Parc-y-Berllan, and trafficked 91 grams Cardiff

which could even cause

CARDIFF CROWN COURT REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

Crown Porthcawl, pleaded guilty Court. to supplying heroin,
Heroin, said Judge possessing it with intent,
Neil Bidder QC, was a and possessing crack
"terrible, terrible drug" cocaine and Diazepam.

Said the Judge: "These offences are serious. You

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and trafficked 91 grams of heroin. The profits were to feed your own habit."

He added: "You were addicted to an awful drug which causes degradation, decline and death. It is a terrible, terrible drug."

The trafficking of heroin, he said, had to be

Said the Judge: "You were a man of great potential. You worked for some time abroad and got from an earlier drug addiction. This is an extremely sad case.

Prosecutor Tim Navlo said that on December 4 the police went to Mead's home to investigate a car collision.

They spoke to Mead who said he had crashed into neighbour's vehicle. Officers came to the conclusion that he seemed to be under the influence of drugs.

His home His home was searched, and drugs including heroin, crack cocaine and Diazepam were found, plus £870 in cash.

During an interview

Mead gave a frank account of his activities, saying he had purchased drugs in Newport, some of which were for personal use.

He admitted selling heroin to 10 friends and estimated he had bought drugs from the Gwent

city on 26 occasions.

His solicitor, Adam
Sharp, said: "He was
always candid. This is his first experience of the criminal justic system and he and his family are

devastated."
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



New play will tell story of Alfie and Bridgend

A NEW play, to be performed in Cardiff later this month, will be telling two stories - the tale of Alfie (Gareth Thomas) and his torment over whether he should 'come out' in the world of rugby, and the time when Bridgend was branded the 'suicide capital' of the world.

The rugby star has worked with National Theatre Wales, a London-based theatre group, and a Welsh cast to create *Crouch, Touch, Pause Engage*, which will be premiered at the Sherman Theatre In the cast is Katie Elin-Salt, a former star with the Bridgend Youth Theatre.

(For the full story, turn to page 11).





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Camera society announces winners



David Jones wins with The Great Escape (below).





PYLE & Porthcawl **Photographic Society** held its annual 'club competition two' on Thursday, January 29 at the Glamorgan Holiday Hotel in Porthcawl.

The competition was split into two sections, one for prints and one for digital images, with a trophy for each. Each member could enter up to two images into each competition.

Jenny Hibbert expertly iudged competitions, and not only awarded the points, but also provided an excellent critique on each

image.

In the print section the winner was David Jones with 'The Great Escape

Second place went to Jones, ichard Craze with John Richard Craze with 'Posing Rook', and third place went to Geoff Baker with 'Blue Tit'.

In the digital section the winner was Trevor Owen with 'Pink Lily'.

'Preparing to land'.

Third place was shared between Paul





Trevor Owen John Corcoran, Baker and Dan Minto.

Congratulations David and Trevor for winning the competitions and a big thank you to all wen with 'Pink Lily'. and a big thank you to all who participated for Second place went to making it such an recoff Baker with interesting entertaining evening.

GLYN

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LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER.

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We will (in certain circumstances)protect a writer's identity, if requested.

The GEM is attacked - for printing article in Welsh!

'Respect for others only way to keep community strong

AM writing in response to the recent GEM letter criticising the use of the .Welsh language in your paper. I am the owner and founder of Babi Bach – a bilingual music class for little ones teaching English and Welsh through music.

I obviously feel very passionately about the Welsh language and was genuinely shocked to read the anonymous letter criticising your publishing in Welsh in Wales.

I feel that the writer of the letter is not only ill-informed, but also terribly narrow-minded.

I asked parents and care givers who bring their little ones to my classes for their responses to the letter and their feedback included: "I pity the misguided author of that article. He must feel very foolish now.

"Such a pity that people can't appreciate variety and respect the heritage of the country he's chosen to live in." – M Williams.

I would like to extend an open invitation to the author of the letter to attend a Babi Bach

class and see the amazing effect that being bilingual has on little ones (and their parents)

and what it adds to their lives.

Our "insistence on the Welsh language" is, in

'GEM was wrong to print Welsh letter

EGARDING the anonymous GEM about Welsh speakers in cowbridge, I am in my 80s – could this reply also be

anonymous please? My main concern is that the person who wrote the letter has such extreme views that I don't think it was a good idea to print the names of people who have replied and sincerely hope there will not be any repercussions

against the writers I really feel you have been rather irresponsible in printing the original that it was, as a lot of

people are saying, written by one of your staff to create a reaction, as obviously if it is anonymous, how can we find out?

(Name and address supplied).

GEM NOTE: As we made clear, The GEM made an exception to our policy of not printing anonymous letters, as a matter of public interest.

We would, if asked, have withheld any reader's identity (as we have done here!)

It is impugning The GEM's integrity to suggest it was written by a member of staff. That is simply not the case.

'Language of Wales'

EFORE thinking Cowbridge is a foreign import, note the following: this country is Wales. The language is Welsh!

I have just spent 10 years in a land where even the immigration office had no-one who could speak English (or any other language) other than their own – why should they?

I am English and my passion is languages. I use four of them daily.

Peter Crocker,

St Athan.

part, down to the fact that we live in a country that still has its own language that has survived, in various forms, over 1,400 years (old Welsh through to modern Welsh) Why would we choose to disregard such an integral part of our history and culture?

It is mind boggling to think that this person believes Welsh is turning people away from Wales; is French doing that in France?! Or English in England?! I think not.

In respect of Cowbridge having "always been very un-Welsh" – well, that is just wrong! One example: Iolo Morgannwg, the man who made the Eisteddfod into what it is today, spent a large amount of his time in Cowbridge in the 18th

The plaque in place to remind us of his link to Cowbridge seems as pertinent as ever! "Y gwir yn erbyn y byd" – The truth against the world! The Welsh primary school, named after the

man himself, in Cowbridge has approx 220 children attending – a fact which speaks volumes about how Welsh Cowbridge is.

I believe the author of this letter needs to learn that respect for others is the only way to keep communities and towns strong and

I would welcome them in a class of mine anytime (as soon as he or she has learnt the bit about respect). Penni Carr,

'Waste of time and resource

not agreeing with your recent anonymous correspondent regarding Welsh, he or she has valid concerns and in my view, probably has sympathy from all

but a few. Contrary to popular belief amongst a handful of Nationalists, the Welsh language is heading ever faster to its natural moribund resting place, among other long dead dinosaurs.

The vast majority, (at least 80 per cent) of the population, don't want anything to do with the

Plaid Cymru of course, are inextricably linked to it and are forever doomed to be tarnished with anti-

English credentials. Their desperate desire to impose this language on us in order to create a

difference between

people in Wales and other people in the UK – where in fact one does not exist - is a classic example of being hung by one's own petard. Why?

Because we want to live in the 21st century, in a modern and progressive world – we don't want to wander around the hills 'acarolling' and reading poems to each other, and we certainly do not want the Welsh language.

It is divisive, parochial, inward looking, anti-green, and a waste of time, money and resource.

The WAG down in Cardiff Bay would never allow us to have our say, which is one more reason why people regard AMs and whatever they do, with complete contempt.

Yes, I'm Welsh, if being born at St David's Hospital, Cardiff, counts Peter Reed.

MP signs the Holocaust 'Book of Commitment'



LAST week, the MP. Bridgend Madeleine Moon. signed the H[°]olocaust Educational Trust's Book Commitment.

This pledged her commitment Holocaust Memorial Day and honouring those who were murdered during it as well as paying tribute to the extraordinary who work to educate survivors tirelessly

young people.

January 27, marked the 70th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration and death Auschwitz-Birkenau, the site of the largest mass murder in history.

In the weeks leading up to and after Holocaust Day, of Memorial commemorative events will be arranged by schools, faith groups and community organisations across the country, remembering all the victims of the Holocaust and subsequent

genocides.

The MP commented:

"Holocaust Memorial Day marks anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration and death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau and of important opportunity to remember the victims and survivors of the Holocaust and make sure they are not forgotten. "I encourage all

"I encourage all constituents to mark the day and to join members of my community in the fight against prejudice and intolerance."

Karen Pollock, chief

executive executive of the
Holocaust Educational
Trust, said: "We are
proud that Madeleine
Moon MP is

MP is Holocaust

Momorial Day.

"As we mark the 70th anniversary of the end of the Holocaust and the liberation of the concentration camps in 2015, it is vitally important that we both important that we both continue to remember and learn from the appalling events of the Holocaust; as well as ensuring that we continue to challenge anti-semitism and all forms of bigotry."

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL FEBRUARY 12)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
05 Thur	07.22	9.7	19.35	9.5
06 Fri	07.49	9.6	20.07	9.4
07 Sat	08.21	9.5	20.38	9.3
08 Sun	08.52	9.4	21.07	9.2
09 Mon	09.21	9.1	21.39	8.9
10 Tues	09.53	8.8	22.12	8.6
11 Wed	10.27	8.5	22.53	8.2
12 Thur	11.17	8.1	23.51	7.8
While The	GEM makes	everv e	ffort to check to	he

accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

We abide by the code of practice upheld by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). This contains provisions for issues such as accuracy.

If you have a complaint, write to us at the address elow, left, or call editorial manager Don John on 01446 774484. All complaints will be fully investigated. If you are not satisfied with the outcome, you may wish to contact IPSO c/o Halton House, 20-23 High Holborn, London ECIN 2JD. Website: www.ipso.co.uk. Tel: 0300 123 2220. E-Mail: complaints@ipso.co.uk. Enquiries: inquiries@ipso.co.uk.

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Tory AM is 'shocked' at Porthcawl caravan site 'wasteland' at Sandy Bay

here we are, no nearer to

any of

SHADOW Weish The Council has Formassi, which is some manner of som Byron said. Minister Davies is calling on and street lights still exist seeing Bridgend

Meirion Jenkins, the owners.
party's parliamentary "The council decided devastation he found.

He said he was close it almost overnight more," he said. "I proces "shocked" by the utter on the basis of the new regeneration strategy for

Call for cancer treatment fund

well able to pay for them.

it will keep a version of

"The Cancer Drugs

A REGIONAL AM than £5m a year to run, urging Welsh compared to the £38m a
alth Minister year which Labour viinister year which Labour

Drakeford spends giving Health Mark AM to "bow to public opinion" and set up a cancer Fund in England stands

wates.

Suzy Davies, a Welsh paying for treatment for Conservative regional Welsh patients who have AM for south Wales moved over the border, west, said Mr Drakeford claimed in a Senedd claimed in a Senedd need are not available debate in November that here. such a fund was not popular with the Welsh public.

"The Labour Party in England has pledged that it will be a pledged that

She went on: "But a poll published this week power and similar funds power and similar funds by the BBC shows that 72 per cent of the Welsh public would like such a Ireland. Only Wales is This figure is pretty consistent across supporters of all the main parties.

Drakeford, in the light of information that a have got things wrong majority are in favour, to and act immediately to now have the decency to set up this fund. back down and set up a

Foundation estimates policy has that it would cost less misguided."

County but all the rest has been

action at the former Sandy Bay caravan site in Porthcawl.

Mr Davies, a Tory regional AM, visited the site accompanied by and touring caravan barking the site of the

he said. "I that understand private owners and leaseholders mean that they will have to pay of the sale of Sandy Bay and Sandy Bay blighting to them.

and Sandy Bay blighting their town," he stated. to them.

the be faced with finding they demolished but they regeneration plan £25m upfront before they implemented than we have turned a spade or Borough Council taken over by nature.

(BCBC) to take

"It's hard to remember to take action at the former"

taken over by nature.

"It's hard to remember where then. In my view, built a single property. the chances of houses It's a non-starter at the the taken to the former than the house is the chances of houses It's a non-starter at the think the house is the former than the house is the chances of houses. It's a non-starter at the taken to the former than the house is the chances of houses. It's a non-starter at the taken the former than the house is the chances of houses. It's a non-starter at the taken than the house is the chances of houses."

> Meirion Jenkins said Mr Davies will be that coupled with the sking the council to go fiasco over Phase One of back to the drawing the regeneration scheme, board with the entire which is to build a regeneration strategy. supermarket and homes "It's time to admit that on land at Salt Lake, the regeneration process had descended

> understand that into farce.
> contractual deals made "While the council by the council with private owners leaseholders made"
>
> process had descended "While the council wrings its hands and does nothing, the page 1.5" nothing, the people of Porthcawl are left with they will have to pay two large areas of semi-£10m out of the proceeds derelict land at Salt Lake

can take place because a caravan park for on effect on the whole this is a high risk flood camper vans and tourers town," he argued. is desperately

"Admittedly, they will have to rebuild the toilet "So, developers could and shower blocks which can be funded from the profits.

"A new caravan park would draw in visitors and boost tourism in the town, helping local businesses in New Road which were badly when Sandy Bay closed

Byron Davies is to write to BCBC chief executive Darren Mepham to urge the council to take action at

Sandy Bay. "The Salt Lake scheme has hit the indication that anything is going to happen there

soon. "So "There are also "The council should requirements for sea immediately scrap the defences to be in place housing scheme for tourism at Sandy Bay before any development Sandy Bay and reinstate This will have a knock also "The council should something come out of sea immediately scrap the this debacle by boosting place housing scheme for tourism at Sandy Bay.

zone, plus there should which Cefn Cribwr concert for Prostate Cymru

and Dare Brass together at 7pm on the entertainment from Saturday, February power and similar lungs are being set up in Scotland and Northern Charity, Pro Cymru/Wales. 14, to support the deserving Prostate

The venue is one of the borough's best at claimed. s. would ask Mr would ask Mr Bethlehem Church Life Centre, (BCLC), Cefr enough to admit that they which Cribwr. spacious and has a large adjacent car park. Both participants

"They will earn more programmes are varied, respect from the public if "The Rarer Cancers they accept that their performed together. It's great value with been tickets at just £5 and

BRIDGEND Male available from BCLC; Choir and the Parc Pyle Post Office and Porters Estate Agents, Nolton Street, Bridgend. Band are coming Come along and enjoy

these multi award winning music providers, at the same time supporting a deserving charity.

MONTHLY MEDITATION CLASSES AT QUAKER MEETING HOUSE

DHARMAVAJRA Kadampa Buddhist Centre will be holding monthly meditation classes at the Quaker Meeting House in Bridgend on Wednesdays, from 7.30pm - 9pm on the following dates: February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10 and July 8.

These classes provide an overview of Buddhist hought and practice.

The Quaker Meeting House is at 87 Park Street (A473) Bridgend CF31 4AZ. Fee for each drop-in class is £5, or £3 for anyone not working.

CARDIFF CROWN COURT ROUND-UP by AJ SICLUNA

Bridgend man is jailed for attack on cyclist

to work in Bridgend was said he didn't know Mr Jader.

Harvey was said by the prosecution struck unconscious during an Crown Court heard.

Norbert Jader suffered a two-inch

Bridgend, admitted a charge of causing actual bodily harm and was jailed for 21 weeks.

Mr Thomas said that on July 17 at

about 8pm, Mr Jader was cycling to work in Minerva Street, Bridgend.

Jader owed it to his girlfriend.

Mr Jader was then punched in the face and fell to the ground offending, the sentences will get unconscious. When arrested, said Mr longer."

unprovoked attack, Cardiff to have previous convictions for assaulting a man when armed with a golf club, for causing damage, assaulting a man in a flat, theft and Noroert Jauer surfices a control of the cut to a cheek, said prosecutor David using threatening words and behaviour.

Loshua Harvev (19) of Coity Road, Said his barrister, Christopher Rees:

Said his barrister, Christopher Rees:

"He is a man with many problems.

Recorder Jonathan Furness OC said: "This was an unpleasant incident. You punched a man for no good reason. You were on bail at the time and you have previous convictions.

Harvey approached him and He received a further four weeks to demanded money. He claimed that run consecutively for failing to answer He received a further four weeks to to his bail.

Said the Recorder: "If you carry on

'Wicked crime' sees pensioner jailed for six months

down in tears in the dock at Cardiff her.

Court, after Mr Gobir said there her.

Mr Gobir said there her. being jailed for six had been a £4,000 months for what balance in her account was described as a but over three months.

Construction shall there "This was a wicked crime, it was absolutely despicable."

He said the victim was a wicked crime, it was absolutely despicable." "wicked crime".

Ann Ogle of Churchill lose, Bridgend, Close, admitted a charge of

theft.
The court heard she had stolen £3,000 from a 94-vear-old, vulnerable bedridden woman.

Nuhu Prosecutor Gobir said Ogle had been caring for Eunice King, who possessed all her faculties.

Her grandson had employed Ogle because he believed she was trustworthy, but at one time he had been time he had been concerned about money disappearing from his grandmother's account wo years ago.

Ogle was paid £90 a Hartland, asked the broke week to take care of Mrs Judge to be lenient and

but over three months, £3,050 was withdrawn.

Ogle initially denied theft, but later said: "It was me, I took it and I don't know why I did it.

I am sorry."
Her solicitor,

King when her grandson show compassion.

Recorder Jonathan Furness QC told her: "This was a wicked

He said the victim was 94, bedridden, and Ogle was trusted and paid to care for her.

He said he was unable to suspend the prison Tim sentence.



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SUNDAY **BANQUET**

5 COURSES: £8.50 Midday - 11pm

Who wants to build what and where?

RBS – 26/28 Adare Street, Bridgend – Fascia sign, projecting sign, ATM surround and vinyl signage to entrance.

Mr Haydn Davies - 1 Cae Pentice, Cefn Cribwr – Fell group of sycamore trees ((1989) (OBC No 17). Northover Estate Agents - 10 Canolfan, Brackla

- Change of use to A2

(estate agents). Mr Jeremy Isaac – Sker Court, West Road, Porthcawl - External over-cladding, infill ground and first floor extensions and replace pitch roof with flat roof and sun terrace to NW corner.

Barratt SW and Unit Welsh Housing Association – Playing field at Ysgol Bryn Castell, Llangewydd Road, Bryntirion Erection of 67 dwellings, new access, car parking, open space, landscaping and associated works. Miss M R Lewis - 68 Turberville Street, Maesteg – Rearrange ground floor and provide new single storey extension. Mr and Mrs David

Chilcott – Garden of 60 Pant Hirwaun, Heol y Cyw, Bridgend - Relax condition 1 of P/13/89/RES relating to type of materials used. Porthcawl Town Council – Station Hill (adjacent RAFA Club),

seating area with rail art features, seats and interpretation panels Ward Iones Bridgend Ltd - Horsefair Road, Waterton Industrial Estate, Bridgend -Single storey office block and associated removal of an existing portacabin. Mr Alister Edwards – 1 Sea View, Cefn Road, Bridgend - Two storey rear extension. Gamesa Energy UK Limited - Mynydd y Gelli/Mynydd Gerau nr Abergwynfi, Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend - Non material amendment to P/10/844/Ful. Waterstone Homes -270/270A New Road,

Porthcawl - Nonmaterial amendment to application P/12/878/OUT. Mr John Richards - 44 Cefn Road, Cefn Cribwr - Proposed two storey extension to rear. H3G Ltd and E E Ltd -Land off Merlin

Crescent, Cefn Glas Replace existing monopole with a 11.7m monopole with additional equipment cabinet.

Mr Lance Evans - 80 Severn Road. Porthcawl - Ground floor rear/side extension, modifications to first floor and loft

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THE RUSH TO ENLIST IN FEBRUARY, 1915'...



ABOVE: Porthcawl policemen 1915, PC DC Grant, PC WJ Thomas, PC D Hayes, PC W Richardson, Sergeant Jenkins, PC F Trott.

CERI JOSEPH of Porthcawl Museum continues her look back on life in Porthcawl during World War One: this week, Febuary 1915.

"Will all who can conveniently accommodate troops at Porthcawl kindly send in their names and addresses, stating the number they can accommodate, to the council offices, Porthcawl marking the envelope 'Billets'." (Porthcawl News 4th February 1915.)

This advert in the local newspaper epitomised life in the town, as there was a constant flow of men either arriving to enlist or leaving with their battalion for further training in north Wales. On January 31, the last recruits of the 17th

Battalion, Welsh Regiment 1st Glamorgan Bantams left. On February 1, the first recruits were arriving to enlist in the 18th Battalion, 2nd Glamorgan

Such was the urgency to form battalions and the eagerness of men to enlist, that the 18th Battalion began recruiting two days before it was officially raised, by the National Committee for Raising the Welsh Army Corps in Cardiff, on February 3, 1915.

A total of 70 men had arrived by the evening of February 2 and 400 by February 12. On February 14 the battalion, under the command of Lieutenants Bracher and Pugh, previously of the 16th, Cardiff City battalion marched down John Street to attend a service at All Saints' Church, led by the Rev DJ Arthur. In hindsight this occasion proved to be quite significant and poignant.

The battalion became very popular with Porthcawlians, having integrated seamlessly into everyday life. Eventually, the battalion left Porthcawl in July 1915 for further training at Prees Heath. The men landed in France in June 1916, and served with distinction at Ypres, the Somme and, particularly, at Bourlon Wood in November 1917, resulting in 12 officers, 77 other ranks being killed

and 15 officers, 241 other ranks wounded.

Members of the battalion later received the following: one Distinguished Service Medal, one Military Cross, two Distinguished Conduct Medals, one Bar to the Military Medal and 13 Military

On February 3, 1919 at Pont a Marq, in recognition of their service and sacrifice the Prince

Hogwarts challenge

BRIDGEND library and information service will hold the world's first ever Harry Potter book night tonight. Thursday, February 5, when activities games and spells take place across the globe to celebrate the boy wizard.

Youngsters eight and above will compete for house points in a variety of challenges to be in with chance to win prizes.

The free events are taking place at: Bridgend

Library at 8.30pm-9pm (contact the library to reserve your ticket); Pencoed Library 4pm-6pm; and Porthcawl Library 7pm-8.30pm.





of Wales on behalf of King George V presented the 18th Battalion with a King's Colour. On June 27 a cadre of the battalion travelled to Porthcawl where, during a dedication ceremony, their Colour was laid up at All Saints' Church.

Apart from it being transferred to Regimental HQ during World War Two for safekeeping, it has proudly hung, and still hangs in the church today. A further example of troop movement in and out

of Porthcawl that month was the departure of 522 men of the Army Service Corps to Portmadoc; and the arrival by special train of 200 men of the 3rd Battalion, Welsh Regiment under the command of Major Masterman.

"The men were housed at 'Danygraig House' and other houses at Newton, and have their own cooking utensils." (Porthcawl News February 4, 1915). The battalion was one of the first to avail Itself of

the new Porthcawl rifle range, opened on February 3 on Newton Burrows. Previously a golf links, the 3 on Newton Burrows. Previously a golf links, the military requisitioned the site for 'musketry training'. October 9, 1919 saw the re-opening of the Newton Nottage Golf Club. The year 1922 witnessed its demise and the emergence in its place of the Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club at Maudlam.

Mr William 'Billa' David, who had distinguished himself in the war serving with the Yorkshire Regiment 'Green Howards' had been men's

champion at both clubs.

After the war, 'Billa' became a founder member

of the 'Comrades of the Great War,' which eventually became the British Legion Porthcawl

Despite having to cater for and accommodate servicemen, local residents and organisations involved themselves in national initiatives. One such initiative advertised on February 6 was the National Fund for Welsh Troops. It read, to provide additional comforts for Welsh Regiments at home and abroad'.

Inspired by the appeal, Porthcawlians responded Inspired by the appeal, Fortneawhans responded by creating a local committee, and within a week had collected £17. In London, chairwoman Mrs Lloyd George was to help devise a book of Welsh art and literature to be sold in support of the fund, a copy of which is on display at the museum.

To further promote the cause, a St David's Day matinee of Welsh Culture was staged on March 1 at the Alhambra, Leicester Square.

On the same day, the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards mounted its first King's Guard at Buckingham Palace. The Welsh Guards had only just come into existence on February 26, by Royal Warrant of the King in response to Lord Kitchener's request on February 6.

They were the last guards to be created, following the Irish Guards having been established in 1900.
Initially the first Welsh Guards were Welshmen

Brackla Street.



ABOVE: A very rare membership card for the Newton Nottage Golf Club dated 1919 - 1922.

from other Guard regiments, but in May 1915 a recruitment campaign drew Welshmen from all over

Five of Porthcawl's policemen and one local decorator, David Henry Davies, enlisted that month. On August 17 all six sailed with the regiment for France and fought at the Battle of Loos in September. We will follow their story in the months

At home during February, Madame Woaters, a Belgian refugee gave birth to a baby girl. Orchestral concerts were to continue on the front, a lamplighter applied to the council for two new tyres for his bike as he had worn them down doing council work and magistrates proclaimed that an egg ceased to be termed new-laid after nine days.

On February 1, the government declared photographs were to be included in passports for the

Finally, the fallout from decisions made in February 1915 was to severely affect men, not only

from Portheawl, but Britain and her Empire too.
On February 19, 1915 British and French ships began a naval assault on the Dardanelles in the misguided belief that they could easily knock out Turkey, Germany's ally.

On February 20, the British Government issued orders for the Australian and New Zealand forces to be deployed to Gallipoli from Egypt. The landings of military troops in the region would end in huge numbers of allied casualties by the end of the year.

Join me next month to read how the 3rd Battalion enjoyed St David's Day; and how the controversy over the planned site for the new railway station led to a local petition

Ceri Joseph, Porthcawl Museum. Porthcawl Museum is open every Tuesday – Friday 10am – 12pm and 2pm – 4pm. Saturdays 10am – 4pm.

PACT MEETINGS

FEBRUARY PACT meetings in the Oldcastle ward are as follows:

February 2, 4pm – 5pm at Ashfield Surgery, Merthyr Mawr Road.

February 13, 5pm - 7pm at Asda, Coychurch Road

February 16, 5pm – 7pm Castle Bingo, Bridgend. February 19, 2pm – 3pm Ewenny Tearooms, Ewenny Road.

February 25, 1pm – 2pm Brackla Street Centre,

It's panto time in Blaengarw with Peter Pan and Captain Hook at the Workmen's Hall

THE traditional pantomime at the Blaengarw Workmen's Hall returned to the stage this year after a break, and it was welcomed back by enthusiastiby Betty Aldenc audiences.

All the familiar characters from JM Barrie's Peter Pan were there, as Captain Hook and his pirates looked to get their revenge on Peter's lost boys, but were thwarted by the good guys!

A large cast were looking great in their carefully-prepared costumes, and the audience made it plain that they were glad to see the panto in Blaengarw once again!

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

E-Mail: ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk Telephone 07791 228684 www.ffotoimage.co.uk













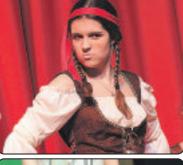
















Br

Porthcawl Comprehensive pupils bring '50s magic to the Grand Pavilion stage

Photographs by MALCOLM NUGENT

P O R T H C A W L Comprehensive School pupils sent packed houses at the Grand Pavilion home happy last week, with a high energy production of *Grease*.

The combination of the track record of the school's drama department, and the popularity of the evergreen 50s musical tale of young love, certainly attracted the crowds.

As the final curtain came down on the run, headteacher Andrew Slade told the audience that the school had sold 2,500 tickets over the four performances – a record for any Porthcawl school show.

There were plenty of accomplished performers on stage, with Katie Roberts excelling in the lead role of Sandy, alongside Jack Davies, who was a charismatic Danny.

Anna Arrieta, who was a sparky Rizzo, received prolonged applause for her big number, 'There are worse things I could do'.

Judging by the well-staged dance numbers, the choreography team of Mrs Rhian Atherton and Miss Kelly Hardwick had been working the cast very hard, and all that work was rewarded by a show that kept up the school's strong dramatic traditions!



















Porthcawl Comprehensive pupils bring '50s magic to the Grand Pavilion stage

Cast list and production teams

CAST LIST
S A N D Y Wells, Blythe Hughes
DUMBROWSKI: Katie
Roberts.

Sarah Spencer, Sophie
Wells, Blythe Hughes
Davies, Lydia Pickett,
Nia Powell, Amy Roberts.

DANNY ZUKO: Jack Davies **BETTY RIZZO**: Anna Arrieta
KENICKE: Stefan Tabitha Carrington
FRENCHY: Madeline Jones, Minchell Bayles,
Ethan Granville, Rebecca
Adams, Samantha JAN: Lauren Ellis-Stretch JAN: Lauren Ellis-Suerch
DOODY: Rhys Owen
ROGER: Sam Pryce
SONNY LATIERRI:
Robert Davis
MISS LYNCH: Ellie
Stanford

Mainwaring, Alice
Webber, Ciera Mitchell,
Georgia Baglow, Layla
Millar, Lucy Vinen,
Charlotte Evans-Jones,
Chloe Green. Rosser-Stanford
PATTY SIMCOX: Katie
Williams
Production
Team Williams **Team EUGENE FLORCZYK**: Director: Miss Max Bravery
VINCE FONTAINE:
Gethin Phillips
TEEN ANGEL: Richard

C H A - C H A
DIGREGORIO:Phoebe

CHORUS Sam Spriggs, Jessica Wood, Harriet Maine Stephanie Harper, Kayleigh Hodgson, Katie Mainwaring, Danielle Littleford, Helen Anderson, Rhiannon Griffiths, Daniel Knowles, Arran Pearce,

Price / Lewis Scott
JOHNNY CASINO:
Jordan Norris

СНА

Osborne, Phoebe Howells-Hopkins, Ffion Jefferies, Elin Morris, Emily Leyden, Annabelle Morgan, Saoirse Davies, Mossie Davis, Grace Hadley, James Evans-Jones, Mitchell Davies Williams, Rhiannon Mainwaring, Alice Webber, Ciera Mitchell, Georgia Baglow, Layla

Hardwick. Assistant Stage Managers: Musical Director: Mrs Mr Shaun Lewis, Adele Rhian Atherton. Choreography: Mrs Rhian Miss Kelly

Hardwick.

Peter Sloggett, İmogen Costume: Mrs Thompson, Goldberger. Tabitha Ellams

Pavilion.
Sound: Dylan
Davies/The Winn-Pavilion. Stage

Brown. Deputy Stage Manager: Kelly Samantha Timbrell.

Powell.

Runner: Megan Perrin. Stage Crew: Liam Joseph,

Joe Smith.

Rehearsal Accompanists:

Connor Grant, Melissa
Rowntree, Kate Slennett,
Pavid Walters, Rhys Reid.

GREASE Band

Laura Keyboards: Imogen Kent Megan and Peter Sloggett. Guitar 1: Mr Dave Jefferies Lighting: The Grand Guitar 2: Trystan Winn-Davies

Percussion: Mr Huw Griffiths. Bass: Mr Geraint Evans

Manager: Erin and Jack Bridger.
Reed 1: Mr Richard
Stage Manager: Hamer. Reed 2: Thomas Phillips.







Tonyrefail to welcome new community facilities

church is to unveil number of years in state-fof-the-art development. community facilities
Work started on site at the end of last year after next month.

St David's Church in Lottery's People and Tonyrefail, which was Places Fund.

awarded a £208,000 Parish priest, Canon awarded a £208,000 Parish priest, Canon Lottery grant last year to help with the makeover of the huilding will of the huilding will will a support of the huilding will will be to the huilding will be to help with the makeover a grand re-opening on of so many into this Friday, February 27, at current reality.

imaginative and creative way of re-configuring the church so that it can be church so that it can be project co-ordinator for used both for worship and as a flexible new hall will be available and as a flexible new hall will be available community space for the for the use of the whole

managed Stefan Horowskyj of in Tonyrefail.'

VALLEYS Abergavenny has been a

when it reopens the project received a boost from the Big

of the building, will access lottery funding in unveil its new facilities at order to turn the dreams access lottery funding in

7.30pm. "The re-opening of the church with its new and new community
meeting space will
include a purpose built
kitchen and toilets, a
from all walks of life will people of all ages and from all walks of life will WIFI hub, a designer glass partition and a mezzanine floor project came about overlooking the church which will be used for wnich will be used for concerts.

The Archbishop of Wales, Dr Barry Morgan, who will re-open the church said: "This is an imaginative and creative local people".

Maureen Harris the people of Tonyrefail." community and we hope
The project, which has this will provide a

CANTORION CHOIR READY FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUI

COETY held its AGM at Gilead Chapel, Coity on January 26, amid an air of optimism from all concerned - as 2014 had proved to be a successful year of learning and performing.

During the proceedings, the existing officers and officials were re-elected. The chairman Gareth Brace thanked the

choir for commendable performances at concerts and hoped that everyone would continue to enjoy their association with the choir during the coming

Thanks were given to the musical director, Eira Paskin and accompanist, Gareth Waite, for their dedication and hard work.

Looking forward to 2015, the chairman sounded a positive note when he announced that Cantorion Coety has already had enquiries about possible concerts, and will take part in the Ogmore Vale Male Choir St David's Day celebrations at their Ogmore Vale Centre, on March 1.

Cantorion Coety will also be arranging the third

annual concert during June, and will be performing at Coity's own festival, the 'Choirs in the Castle', during the same month.

Choir president Dr John Elfed Jones of Coity, was

present to demonstrate his continuing support for the choir. He is a keen supporter, and his message of encouragement included a request that the choir maintain its reputation for performing Welsh music, including folk songs and new music composed by

ooth for worship the church said, "The as a flexible new hall will be available mitty space for the for the use of the whole of Tonyrefail." community and we hope project, which has this will provide a designed and positive contribution to ed by architect those who live and work Horowskyj of in Tonyrefail."

Including folk songs and new music composed by contemporary Welsh composers.

The choir performs at concerts and other charitable occasions. Contact Alun Roberts Jones, Choir PR Officer, 01656-655162; Hon Sec, on 01656 656276; Marged1@tiscali.co.uk 15.



Scooting along to school or work!

YOUNG people in Bridgend county borough can get to their workplace or college course on time - thanks to a scooter loan scheme launched by Bridgend Community Transport.

The new 'Wheels to Work' scheme, which has received a grant of £15.806 from The South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner Alun Michael, is the latest initiative to be offered by the not-for-profit charity part-funded by Bridgend County Borough Council.

An initial payment of £140 is required to loan a scooter, but £100 of that amount will be refunded, the user's insurance will be covered for the period of the loan, and protective equipment, safety checks and maintenance will all be provided as part of

Mainly run by

volunteers, Bridgend term aim is for the scooter loan scheme to

Community Transport provides residents with an affordable transport service to help take then to hospital visits, medical appointments and other journeys. 'Wheels to Work' is the latest expansion of their service and the longbe developed so that it can become financially sustainable.

To find out more visit www.bridgendcommunit ytransport.co.uk or call 01656 669665.

Hidden treasure celebrates its 900th birthday

Wales' hidden Ewenny
Church
celebrating its 900th
birthday this year
with a series of events, culminating in a festival
weekend.

elebration service will be on Sunday, July 12 at 11am when the preacher will be the Archbishop of will be the Archbishop of Choir, conducted by Wendy York, will be providing the music for the service.

The following hidden

Tucked away at the end of a country lane modieval outside Bridgend, Ewenny Priory Church in the Service. The following five services are service. The following following services are services. The following services are services. The services are services are services.

of a Norman priory will be a fun day out for church in south Wales. all the family, with It has many unique medieval re-enactments, features, such as stalls, games, music, fortifications, the only food and a special Cwrw surviving Romanesque Ewenny, being brewed wall-painting in Wales, by a micro-brewery in and the 21st century Llantwit Major. Priest-in-charge and Alexander Beleschenko, Archdeacon of Margam, soon to be complemented the Venerable Philip

earlier Celtic church. something for everyone, chosen as a suitable year the architecture, art and to celebrate its 900th anniversary.

The main festival weekend will run in the summer on the weekend will run in the summer on the weekend to fully a little of the summer on the seekend media presentation of the control of the summer on the seekend media presentation of the control of the summer on the seekend media presentation of the control of the summer on the seekend media presentation of the control of the seekend media presentation of

summer on the weekend media presentation of the of July 11 to 13 to history and life of the coincide with the festival day on the Saturday of St all that. This will take Benedict, the founder of place in the church on the Benedictine Order, to which Ewenny belonged as a priory of St Peter's 12 at 7.30pm and features film, music and some two www.ewenny.org.uk. which Ewenny belonged as a priory of St Peter's Abbey, Gloucester.

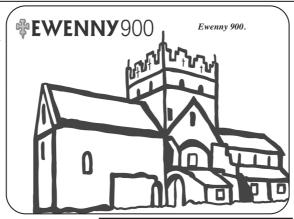
celebration service

following wenty Priory Church is Community Council will acknowledged as the be held on the Priory best-preserved example of a Norman priory church in south Wales. It has many unions

Priest-in-charge and a talk Alexander Beleschenko, soon to be complemented the Venerable Philip with a glass entrance door by the same artist.

Although the exact date of the laying of its the place of the Priory foundation stone is unknown, it is believed to be between 1111 and 120 when it replaced an events planned provide.

1120, when it replaced an events planned provide earlier Celtic church. something for everyone, Hence 2015 has been so come along and enjoy



Tickets are £5 and available from Ewenny Pottery (01656 653020)

The Pottery is making a limited edition reproduction of the medieval tiles in the Priory Church, and also Ewenny 900

has Ewenny 900 shopping bags for sale. In addition to the main Ewenny 900 events, a number of concerts have been arranged to take advantage of the advantage of the wonderful acoustics of the Priory Church. Details www.ewennyfestival.co.

Film Club for youngsters

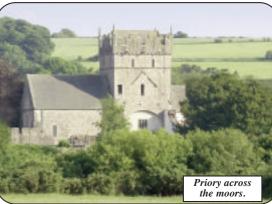
A NEW film club at Bridgend and Pencoed libraries gives youngsters aged between seven and 16 the chance to review popular films starting with *Harry* Potter and the Philosopher's Stone.
Reviews will then be

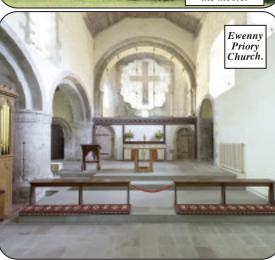
entered for local and national competitions as part of the Into Film programme.

Pencoed Library hosted their first monthly screening on January 30. Bridgend Library Film Club will start on February 12 at 6.30pm and will continue every second Thursday of the month.

With a selection of over 4,000 titles including Hollywood blockbusters from comedy fiction and cartoon to animation and adventure, voungsters who attend will be able to choose the films that will be screened at the future showings.

For more information, visit www.bridgend.gov.uk/lib raries or email blis@bridgend.gov.uk





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OPEN CAST COAL

NE of the innovations of this Parliament has been the creation of the back bench committee.

This committee has access to time in both the chamber of the House of Commons and in Westminster Hall for debates which are judged to be of cross party national interest.

My submission to the committee for time to discuss the financial support needed for the restoration of open cast coal sites brought support from across the political parties.

I was motivated in asking for the debate due to the problems of the Parc Slip/Margam site which scars the valley from Cefn Cribbwr to Kenfig Hill.

Thursday afternoon is not a popular time for a debate but we had a great turnout.
Three of the northern

MPs changed their travel plans.

Two changed flights; the other, who was driving home, stayed in rather than risk driving through snow late at night

One Welsh MP delayed going to Cambridge to speak in a meeting so that she could take part.

I had to spend half of the time allotted setting the national picture before setting out the local problem. In both settings the picture is

There are 34 opencast mines across the UK – 17 in Scotland, nine in south Wales and eight in England.

There are also an unknown number of unrestored and orphaned sites, where developers have declared bankruptcy and disappeared.
The Coal Industry

Act 1994, passed under the Major Government, privatised the remains of British Coal and gave the then Department of Trade and Industry powers to ensure full continuity from the coal corporation to private companies The legislation did not work

I had planned to call the debate 'the pass the parcel debate'

department and agency I spoke to sympathised with the problems both locally and nationally but explained at great length why it was not their responsibility.

When the coal extraction ended, restoration was to be carried out by the private company who had made profits from extracting the coal.

Sadly, too many companies declared themselves bankrupt and passed the costs to local authorities who had no money to undertake millions of pounds of restoration.

As colleagues spoke they described good companies who had carried out wonderful restoration creating country parks. Others described the blackmail of companies asking for more coal extraction in return for housing development which

never took place.
The day before the debate, I received an e-mail from Will Watson, chief executive of Celtic

That company took over 13 south Wales sites in 1994. Nine have completed coaling and

been restored, two are working, one pit is subject to a planning application and the final one is Parc Slip

Margam. When Celtic Energy took over Parc Slip, also known as Margam it did not provide a restoration bond.

In his email, Mr Watson said that this was due to the Government's decision in 1994 to take a larger cash receipt for the sale to the company in return for a 10-year bond-free period.

Mr Watson claimed that "had escrow funds been put away for Parc Slip at today's level of around £10m per year for the years 1994 to 2004 then that fund would now stand at around £155m (assuming it was invested to simply cover inflation)."

He said he would be

very confident if he had £155 million to restore

Mr Watson also said that "the Government in 1994 had £100 million in their restoration fund. (worth around £178 million today) that

WESTMINSTER **NOTEBOOK**

MADELEINE MOON is writing an exclusive monthly report from Westminster

available for

restoration."
Mr Watson felt it seemed reasonable to ask the UK Government to contribute to a solution at Margam and potentially at East Pit.

If he is correct, the Government took money that would otherwise have gone to restoration.

There was a significant benefit to the Treasury in 1994. I wanted the government to confirm that this had happened and why no restoration bond had been secured.

I also asked if there had been a British Coal lump sum for restoration left over from the time the area was mined before privatisation.

Bridgend MP for The GEM.

> are complicated by rising water in the large void. Celtic told me they will be pumping water out of the void for at least three months, and would give three months' notice before

stopping. They stressed this was a goodwill gesture which indicated no liability and that the company would not be willing to continue to incur these costs. The water goes through filtering ponds into tributaries of the River

Kenfig.
Our local problem is complicated by Celtic

Energy selling the land rights of Margam and three other sites to Oak Regeneration, a company based in the British Virgin Islands.

Celtic own the licence to extract coal but the land and the responsibility to undertake restoration is with Oak As I explained during

the debate, Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), in a development control committee report said: "It is ... evident that serving an enforcement notice is unlikely to secure restoration of the site, nor do either of the councils have the financial means behind them to secure the restoration of the site in default."

BCBC has said that the restoration fund for Parc Slip Margam, which is in an escrow account, stands at £5.7 million and that the estimate to secure the full restoration is

Churchill's funeral

between £30 million and £40 million

In summing up the debate I said: "The Treasury has profited. Businesses have profited. Somebody has to hold up their hand and take the moral, social, political, financial and ethical responsibility. Nothing will change unless politicians do that. "We must accept

responsibility.
"We cannot let the private companies get out of this with a responsibility-free zone Inadequate legislation failed: inadeauate regulation failed; the mining industry has

"We have passed the parcel of responsibility for too long. Let us stop the music, and make the changes our communities need.

expect and deserve."

There will be more news once I have met with the Minister to discuss ways forward.

Penny praises 'wonderful kindness' of the folk who came to her aid in town



Witness plea after mobile phone stolen

DETECTIVES in phone. Neither of the **Bridgend** appealing witnesses to come forward after a man took a teenagers' mobile phone from occurred at her as she was 9.50pm on Malking near the January 19.

Life Long Centre in Call South Life Long Centre in Sarn.

victim was walking with 1 5 0 0 0 2 a female friend in Heol Alternatively, demanded her mobile 555 111.

are teenage girls was injured for in the incident.

Police want to hea from witnesses. anyone with information about the robbery, which around

Wales Police on 101, quoting 17-year-old reference number walking with 1 5 0 0 0 2 1 7 9 9 number contac Canola, Sarn, when a Crimestoppers free and man approached her and anonymously on 0800

Penny relaxing in her garden - one of her great loves: "The happiness of gardening is forgetting about your problems. It is very therapeutic."

A severely disabled woman from Llantwit Major says she was deeply touched by the "wonderful kindness" shown to her when she was in the town centre last week.

Penny McVittie (44) a native of Llantwit, enjoys regular visits to the shopping area, but last week had to contend with stormy weather and concerns about whether she would fall

explained: "Although I'm severely disabled, I very much look forward to going into Llantwit Major in my wheelchair or on crutches.

"This is no easy task at any time, but last week the driving rain and high winds were making it even more difficult than usual.

"As I left Nat West Bank on crutches, the weather made it very hard for me to cross the

But Penny need not have worried – local people were keen to

lend a supportive hand.
"I was so touched
when one of the lovely staff hurriedly pulled on her coat to

by TIM **CHAPMAN**

help me make it safely

"As we reached the other side of the road, a lovely elderly man Gordon took over, helping to steer me toward the local chemist

shop.
"Along the way, we were joined by yet another kind person – a lady in a pink coat -who helped guide me safely into the chemist.

"This wonderful display of kindness didn't stop there! Two assistants from the chemist insisted on helping me toward my taxi, even as the kind driver from Heritage Cars met us at the shop

door.
"I was overwhelmed by the kindness and want to thank each of them for helping me on that dreadfully windy and wet day.
"I am so glad I live in

a town full of such lovely, kind people."

Penny said the generosity of spirit she experienced is not universally offered to people elsewhere with disabilities.

opinion, her Britain is a good place

for a disabled person to live, but she has found people in large cities such as London and York sympathetic.

"My neighbours are helpful too - I feel safe in this community. I do fall over sometimes, so it is important to know help is at hand.'

Despite her problems Penny has a positive attitude to life something she attributes to Buddhism and meditation.

One of the great pleasures of her life is gardening.

"The happiness of gardening is forgetting about your problems. It is very therapeutic.

"I belong to Thrive, a charity that encourages people with poor health get involved in horticulture. It has been amazing for me."

Penny has devoted a lot of time to voluntary work over the years the Amelia Trust,

"Cubs and Thrive and is thrilled to have been invited up to Buckingham Palace for a garden party this spring in recognition of her service.

- and how Jim stepped into the pages of history

LAST week, the commemorated the 50th anniversary of Winston Churchill's state funeral, and for one man who was part of the guard of honour, it brought memories flooding back.

Jim Muir, who works Llantwit Major town council, was 17 years old on that chilly January

day in 1965. "I'd joined the RAF at the age of 15 years and eight months – my parents had had to sign a

release form.

"At the time of the funeral I was stationed at Binbrook RAF Lincolnshire.
"I was p in

was part of the guard of honour - in case ceremonial events such as a royal visit.

Winston died on Sunday, January 24, 1965, at his home in London following a

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN stroke. By royal decree, with the rifle

reversed'

his body lay in state for three days at muzzle on your toe and Westminster Hall and a hands on the top of the January 30 at St Paul's Cathedral.

Word came through to Binbrook that Binbrook that its servicemen would be needed at his funeral – the first RAF guard of honour to be invited.

Jim and his colleagues train with the Army readiness for t

momentous day.

"When we got on the coach to travel down to London, they said two of us didn't have to go. No one stepped off. That's how much it meant.

ur – in case "On the day of the al events funeral it was freezing. I visit." We were just outside St Churchill Paul's next to the Army and facing the route. We held our rifles

state funeral followed on rifle butt. We bowed our on rifle butt. We bowed our list heads as the cortege passed. There were huge to crowds and it was a great its honour."

The base at RAF Binbrook got a day off as

a thank you!

Jim, who left the RAF in 2006, has been able to had to travel down to tell his grandson about Woolwich, Arsenal to the day he stepped into

the day he stepped into the pages of history.

Ben, aged 18, is a member of the guard of honour at Arborfield the regimental headquarters of 'REME' - the Royal Electrical Mechanical Engineers of

the British Army. Winston Churchill was buried in a family plot at St Martin's Church, Bladon, a mile from Blenheim Palace, where

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SULLY WAR VETERAN FEATURES ON *EGGHEADS*

I L E E N especially Younghusband alongside BEM, 93, author of contestants such as One Woman's War Frederick Forsyth, Amy Filliott-Smith Griselda and Men I Have I Known appeared on Phillips." BBC2's Eggheads this week.

Eileen, who lives in Sully, featured alongside fellow winners of the People's Book Prize. She said: "I've always

been a fan of the *One* Eggheads and was really revea pleased to be asked,

Hospital bidsfarewell to lead chaplain

A NEW chapter is about to be written in the life of a 'pillar of the hospital community', who is retiring after 20 service to years patients.

Lead chaplain Avril Daffydd-Lewis has been an important part of life at University Hospital of Llandough for a number of years, but has chosen to retire to pursue her goal of becoming a successful author.

She has already won the backing of a New York Times bestselling author, who has agreed to become her mentor.

Friends, family and colleagues joined Avril for a retirement lunch at the hospital chapel. Peter Welsh,

general manager at UHL paid tribute to Avril's role in hospital life.

He said: "What an

impact she has had here at Llandough. If there's one person who is known throughout the hospital it is Avril. The support she has given to staff is incredible - we can't thank you enough in that

respect.
"There is a sense of community here and Avril is a real pillar of that and we are all really sorry to see you retiring, but we are sure we will see her again."

Fundraising gala raises £2,000 for Ty Hafan

Rebecca Chick, business and community fundraiser at Ty Hafan and Vic Thomas, operations director at FCA Cymru.

FOSTER Care Associates (FCA) Cymru recently held a fundraising gala dinner in aid of Ty Hafan children's hospice in Swansea, raising £2,000.

Vic Thomas, operations director at FCA Cymru, visited Sully to present a cheque to Rebecca Chick, business and community fundraiser at Ty Hafan.

esteemed

Elliott-Smith, Griselda

Heppel and Giles Paley-

which was recorded last

year, was shown on Monday, February 2 at

Prize-winning memoir One Woman's War

reveals the truth about

the forgotten wartime women, who, barely out

of their teens, were given awesome

responsibility. Working against the clock, they

calculated the targets of the Luftwaffe's bombing

fleets from information

supplied by Britain's

pioneering

network

Working

radar

Her People's Book

The

6pm.

The annual event is the highlight in FCA Cymru's fundraising calendar, and was attended by generous local businesses and carers from all across south Wales who raised the cash through auctions, raffles and donations on the night.

Auction prizes included tickets to warm-up games for the Rugby World Cup and signed Welsh rugby and football shirts, all helping to lift the

fundraising total. Vic Thomas said: "It was an absolute privilege to organise a fundraising event for this wonderful

organisation and recognise the amazing work Ty Hafan do for children with life limited illnesses and their families. I know the money raised will be used to continue to support their fantastic

Rebecca Chick, business and community fundraiser at Ty Hafan, said: "We are incredibly grateful to FCA Cymru for organising a gala dinner and raising a fantastic amount of money for Tŷ Hafan.

"We need to raise £3.7m each year to support life-limited children and their families from across Wales

"We simply couldn't continue to provide our services without the generosity and kindness shown by the public and organisations like FCA Cymru."

For more information on becoming a foster carer with the FCA, call 0800 023 4561 or visit www.thefca.co.uk.

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Penarth Library Outreach Every Tuesday 2pm-4pm

TELL THE STORY OF ALFIE AND H IS HOME TOWN!

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN



ABOVE: Gareth Thomas and his biographer, Michael Calvin, pictured at the Cowbridge book launch.

AN ambitious play that attempts combine two major local stories opens this month in Cardiff, inspired by the life story of rugby great Gareth Thomas.

The National Theatre Wales production, Crouch, Touch, Pause, Engage, opens in the Sherman Theatre on February 23, before going on tour around Wales, concluding at the Sony Theatre in

Bridgend College.

In the cast is a
Bridgend girl, Katie Elin-Salt, who was one of the star performers in the Bridgend Youth Theatre before embarking on a career in TV and the theatre.

The new play combines two elements: The torment that Gareth went through before deciding to come out as gay in the macho world of rugby, and the way that his home town



ABOVE: Katie Elin-Salt in rehearsal in London.

Photo by Robert Workman, National Theatre Wales.

Bridgend portrayed in 2008 when was branded the suicide capital' of the world.

It was a subject that Gareth Thomas spoke passionately about in Cowbridge last October, when he launched his

autobiography Proud: The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs

Trust to find suitable homes for dogs at the Bridgend rehoming centre ROMA NEEDS

TIME TO



ROMA is a Beagle who is around three-years-old and initially came into the centre in a terrible state, having been found as a stray, but has come into her own with some 'TLC'.

She mixes well with other dogs and shows more of her personality when she is with them. so it is essential that she goes to live with another well-adjusted dog

already in the home. New owners will need some dog experience and multiple visits are required to get to know her. She just needs time and space to settle into her new home.

If you can offer Roma a home, please call 01656 725219; or pop into Dogs Trust Bridgend; we are open 12pm – 4pm every day except Wednesday. LINDA FEAGAN (Supporter relations officer Dogs Trust Bridgend)



The cast get to grips with rugby during rehearsals.

Photo by Robert Workman, National Theatre Wales.

My Story. He told the Wales describe the play audience: "I was as about "two Welsh audience: approached to do a play about my story, but I felt that I had put everything I felt and thought into the book'

how he had always been so proud of his Voice (the Octaghometown, and that Theatre) and Education making his debut in the Rita (Theatre Clwyd). hometown, making his debut in the hold of Fans of Ruth Jones Bridgend had been, at the Stella, on Sky7, will time, the summit of his remember her as Amy, the hairdresser who got the hairdresser who got the hairdresser who got the hairdresser.

postman at the time and ust walking around, and wardrobe malfunction! having people stop me and ask me about the game was wonderful."

Being part of toucned on and Bridgend was special, suicide story.

And all changed in National 2008

playing rugby, the Gary Owen, which Previews start on mention of Bridgend painted a pretty bleak rebruary 19.

would bring a response picture of the town. The final venue in along the lines of: "Oh, the place where people character was a good- and March 28, at the kill themselves".

The final venue in along the lines of the town. The final venue in along the lines of the start of the lines of

approached about the limited horizons.
play, I said that I was interested in telling my London, where the story, alongside the story of Bridgend, but saying something positive about the town that I love." was m National Theatre in tone

names, bruised but not so all the cast have been beaten by media working on tackling and beaten beaten by speculation".

Voice (the Octagon Theatre) and Educating Octagon

He said: "I was a drunk at an awards and ceremony, resulting in a

For Katie, it is the second time she has been cast in a play that of touched on the Bridgend

Theatre London. Wales cast her in Love Steals Loneliness, by He said that wherever Steals Loneliness, by he went in the world Bridgend-born writer playing rugby, the Gary Owen, which

He piace where people character was a good and matter 25, the lithernexives". natured girl who seemed Sony Theatre He said: "When I was resigned to a life with Bridgend College.

was much more positive

She said: "There is a was as about "two Welsh lot of rugby in the play, passing

hat I had put everything speculation. Passing. Felt and thought into the book."

We tell Gareth's been making a name for story – and that of other hewent on to explain berself in the theatre, Bridgend people – by the had always been with lead roles in Little entirely in their own persons of the potential of the entirely in their own words. The

technique, described "documentary verbatim" has been used by writer Robin Soans for the Out of Joint theatre company. and is based on interviews with people

affected by the suicides.
The veteran London producer, Max Stafford-Clark, was keen to direct the show, hence the rehearsals taking place in

The cast will soon be in Cardiff, putting final touches to the show.

However, that is not Speaking from the end for the cast, as London, where the cast the show then goes on are in rehearsals, she told tour around England The GEM that Crouch, during the months of Touch, Pause Engage, April and May!

Heroin addict's jail sentence

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)
He said Mead had been in custody for 54 days, during which time he had "reflected upon his stupidity".

Mr Sharp pointed out that the amount of drugs involved was modest and there was only a small

profit. The Judge said it was unusual to find a man such as Mead, with no previous convictions, to become involved to such an extent.

Said Mr Sharpe: "The case is a tragedy for him.





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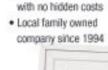
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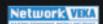
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Health worker thanked after tending to the injured after collision on M4

AN off-duty health worker has been to Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend. thanked for her actions tending the injured at the scene of a serious crash on the M4 on January 24.

Sue Salvatore-Davies was on her way to the Midlands when she saw the multiplevehicle collision ahead of her.

The senior healthcare support worker at Morriston Hospital's Ty Olwen hospice immediately pulled over to see what she could do to help.

Sue looked after the injured until the merchanic services carried are manufactured.

the scene for more than three hours.

The incident, which happened on the

motorway near Cardiff, involved a coach and

to Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend.
Fortunately, there were no life-threatening injuries, but there was considerable traffic disruption.

Sue, who was travelling from her Porthcawl home to visit her father in Coventry, said: "I couldn't just drive past knowing people were injured.

**Touch the said in a gain through the emergency door. The people in the back were injured. The poople in the back were with Marie Curie for 17 years, has been with the hospital palliative care team, based in Ty

and I was there with her, along with an off-

duty fireman.

"I was trying to get her to do breathing emergency services arrived - remaining on exercises and asking her name to keep her conscious.

I went on the bus.

Drawing on her years of healthcare experience, Sue calmed the injured pensioners, administered basic first aid and got blankets and coats for those who needed

When medics arrived, she was able to tell "Someone said there were a lot of people them which passengers were the most on the bus so, once I knew the lady was okay, seriously injured.

Sue also helped the paramedics get the It resulted in 28 people being taken to "There were people all over the bus—in the casualties from the bus using stretchers and different hospitals—almost half of them going aisles because they had been thrown out of chairs. She didn't leave until the last

what I did for the passengers.

"He said they had been asking him about

who the nice lady on the bus was.
"Because I'm in specialist palliative care, I speak to patients and families, so I was able to talk to them and calm them down.'



Sue Salvatore-Davies

70th anniversary of 'The Welsh Great Escape'

MARCH will see 70th the anniversary of 'The Welsh Great Escape' from the World War Two German prisoner of war camp at Island Farm in Bridgend.

To commemorate this, the Hut 9 Preservation Group will be staging a special anniversary event over the weekend of March 7 and 8.

The locked doors of the hut that was the scene of the German Great Escape in March 1945 will be open to the

public. Members of the preservation group, dressed in period uniforms, will give talks and guided tours inside the hut, which is usually closed to visitors. World War Two vehicles will

also be on site.
The group has worked hard over the past year to kit out several of the rooms as they would have appeared during the Second World War and previous visitors group, which is seeking will be able to see the to assure the future of



extent of

A replica guard tower is being constructed, as well as a replica escape tunnel for families to try out their hands at escaping. A free vintage bus will be running between the Science Park and the main entrance, so visitors who have pre-booked should park in the area of the Science Park.

Entry is free but donations on the day to the Hut 9 voluntary

the site, are welcomed these improvements. dependent on

> Spaces on these free tours are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. To reserve a space, please book now. Email bookings are Email bookings are preferred -

The group's website

Full access to the hut is weather and restrictions may apply in order to conserve its fabric and contents.

conservation&design@ bridgend.gov.uk.



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Out and About with The GEV

Paul Thomas Anderson's Inherent Vice is eccentric, rambling and highly enjoyable

news spread that Joaquin Phoenix was set to retire from acting in 2008, it seemed a shame that one of the most talented and watchable actors of his generation was leaving the world of film behind.

It later turned out to be a ruse cooked up to promote mockumentary I'm Still Here, which meant that Phoenix wasn't turning his back on his profession.

Since then, Phoenix has top lined Spike Jonze's clever techlove story Her, and found himself Oscar nominated for his role opposite the later Philip Seymour Hoffman in Paul Thomas Anderson's The Master, and he teams up with Anderson again adaptation, Inherent Vice.

Phoenix plays private detective Larry 'Doc' Sportello, who gets caught up in the troubles of his exgirlfriend Shasta Katherine Waterston). Her love, tycoon Mickey Wolfmann (Eric Roberts), has a wife who may be plotting to commit him to a mental hospital, and when Mickey and Shasta both disappear, Doc has to use his investigative powers to solve the case.

Clocking in at just just shy of two and a half hours, Paul Thomas Anderson's stab at bringing Thomas Pynchon's dense and complex Inherent Vice to the big screen certainly doesn't rush itself; yet the shaggy dog nature of the story doesn't create a film that is necessarily needing

such a luxurious run

Consequently, how you respond to *Inherent* Vice will depend on your feelings towards Anderson as a writer/director, the classy, quality cast and how much of the eccentric nature of the story you can handle.

Being a huge fan of

Anderson means that certain elements of the film pass without overt criticism: the slow pace; the unwieldy and unyielding story that takes the phrase 'round the houses' and spins it out of control; the fact that by the time the lights come up you're not really any wiser than you were come the lights going down - but there is much to love about the film.

Anderson's films have always taken a skewed look at society, from Boogie Nights' dark underbelly of the adult film industry, to

searing study of a man driven by greed and guilt, and Vice, though not written by him, also fits this template.

It's ostensibly a potboiler, a detective story viewed through the prism of the counter-culture of 1970, but look closer and you'll see the same fault lines vou see in the aforementioned Boogie Nights; everything is groovy on the surface until you dig deeper and then it's

going one way.

It feels like a stoned Chinatown, the film having the look of the sun-kissed noirs that popped up in the decade it is set, but the wry humour that runs throughout the film makes it feel like a natural bedfellow to Robert Altman's attempt to take on a literary giant in 1973's The Long Goodbye.

Altman battled



by GARETH **JAMIESON**

Follow Screen Talk on Twitter @GEMScreenTalk

Anderson is battling Pynchon (not the first time Anderson has found himself in the same vaunted breath as Altman).

To even take a stab at adapting Pynchon for the screen is a bold one, but one he doesn't make a bad fist of: he

and hold things together (though often as much as what you see on screen), and languidly takes you through the episodic structure of the story. again even if the source material seems determined to keep you one step behind.

The cast is incredible, with Joaquin Phoenix's bumbling Doc a wonderful creation. part private eye, part cartoon character, and one Phoenix essays with style and subtlety

It's a performance that needs to be pitched right - play it too comedically and you lose the drama, play it too seriously and you risk missing out on the knowing element of the character, but it's a line Phoenix treads with

Josh Brolin is a perfect foil for him. playing flat-topped detective Bigfoot with all the disdain and hatred such a character would have for a character like Doc.

Straight-faced though not without humorous embellishment (Bigfoot is a member of the Screen Actor's Guild, and has bit parts in various TV shows and commercials), Brolin is the perfect fit for the character and hits the right notes.

The likes of Katherine Waterstone. Benicio Del Toro and Owen Wilson (to only name four) shine in a starry ensemble that is

very Altman-esque.
As touched upon, the true pleasure in Inherent Vice is not getting too caught up in proceedings; you can engage in it, but attempting to dig deeper and see what lies under the surface

feeling shortchanged.

Try to keep up with it and vou'll become frustrated and annoved: allow it to wash over you and you'll be more than entertained.

VERDICT - As

likely to satisfy as it is to frustrate. Inherent Vice works if you don't find yourself thinking too hard about it. This may seem an odd thing to say, but logic here doesn't come top of the list of priorities. Instead, Paul Thomas Anderson guides his superb cast though Thomas Pynchon's minefield with style and humour. Recommended.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: Boogie Nights (1998), The Long Goodbye (1973).

EVENTS AT ST. DONATS



Cinema: North by Northwest Thu 5 Feb, 7:30pm Tickets: £5.00



Ceilidh: Thingimijigs Sat 7 Feb, 7:30pm Tickets: £8.50 / £6.50 conc / £2.50 child



Cinema: The Hundred Foot Journey Mon 9 Feb, 2:00pm Tickets: £4.50 to incl a serving of tea or coffee & biscuits



Mother's Day: Cream Tea at St Donat's Castle (as seen on Wolf Hall) Sun 15 March, 2-5pm. Tickets: £9.95 / £6.75 child



Concert: Steve Howe Fri 17 Apr, 7:30pm Tickets: £21.50 / £20.00 conc



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WHAT YOUR AREA

Cowbridge library events FEBRUARY 5:

Afternoon Book Group, 2.30pm – 4pm (inaugural meeting): Chatterbooks group visit to illustrator Suzanne Carpenter (4pm – 5pm). Monthly

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For classic cinema. join us every other Thursday at 7.30pm for films such as *Jaws* and Hitchcock's legendary North by Northwest; films that you may have seen on TV, but not in all their big screen glory!

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book and library group for 9 – 12-year-olds. New members welcome!

February 7: children's quiz; E-book surgery 10am – 12pm, drop-in event.

Need help on debt? THE Citizens' Advice

Bureau is now holding Bureau is now notding fortnightly sessions at KPC in Pyle to give advice and help in dealing with debt, managing a budget and benefits entitlements.

If you would like to book a slot at the sessions, which run on a Thursday between 1pm – 3pm, call Alison on 01656 749219.

The next sessions are February 5 and 19, March 5 and 19, and will run on the first and third Thursday of each

Vale AM's surgery THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt will be holding a surgery tomorrow (Friday, February Trinity Church hall, Trinity Street, Barry from 3pm – 5pm. No appointment necessary

'practical session' ON Thursday, February 12, Cowbridge Art Society welcomes visual artist. writer and researcher Dr Jac Saorsa, who is also the director and senior instructor of the Broadway Drawing

Art Society's

School, Cardiff.
She will be taking a

practical session on 'Drawing from Natural Forms: charcoal and graphite techniques'.
The society meets on

Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge, 7pm – 9pm, and visitors and new members are

most welcome.

For details of the society's activities, see www.cowbridgeartsociet v.com.

Jumble sale in church

ON Tuesday, February 17 at 2pm, the Crossway Ladies' Circle is holding a nearly new/jumble sale in Crossway Methodist Church, Court Road,

Barry. Stalls include books, cakes, bric-a-brac and others Refreshments are available. All proceeds go to the church and charity

Tax help

TAXHELP for Older People will hold free advice surgeries at Bridgend CAB office on Friday, February 13 and Pencoed Library on Wednesday,

February 25.
Also at Age Cymru office, Holton Road, Barry on the last Monday of each month (9.30am to noon). To book an appointment, tel 0845 6013321.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are 487581, 723587, 752725, winning numbers in 495853, 353046, 652428, the Ty Hafan 473647, 232847, 856337, Crackerjackpot 490943, 303092, 208584, lottery number D864.

● £2,000: 213018. ● The rollover, which now stands at £3,500

413840, 636379, 613125,

● **£5:** 620583,810937, 850592, 189289, 742725, 870701, 405023, 375550, 870701, 405023, 375550, please te 334321, 376529, 761290, 2053 2300.

297273, 658409, 172223, 642253, 513820, 242405, 214216, 688225, 875712, 214210, 088223, 6/3/12, 495424, 435432, 424982, 672521, 412422, 914928, 800134, 490590, 211329, 519717, 735329, 167441, 346316, 680921, 125660, 640193, 833347, 230055, 744791, 983100, 542336, 888679, 258007, 720, 49. The GEM cannot be

held responsible for any errors errors or omissic contained in the above.

For lottery information ease telephone 029

Time running out to oppose plan

AM a frequent visitor to Cowbridge and after many years still confess to being captivated by its historic charm; however, I am very concerned about the recent application to build 390 houses at Darren Farm.

I am old enough to remember the frustration for users of the town before the bypass and have noticed a steady increase in congestion in recent years Unfortunately, the High Street is not elastic and

the capacity is finite. I do not want to bore your readers with the numerous reasons as to why I oppose this development, although I supplied

would say that I remember a public inquiry in 2003 ruling against development on numerous grounds.

What annovs me is that there seems to be an attempt to short-circuit the LDP, which will be considered by the Welsh Assembly later this year and which affords a comprehensive look at all the infrastructure and housing needs in the Vale. This, in my view, makes it the best overall assessment on where to build.

I would urge your readers to write or email the council regarding their opposition to the development by going to the 'Save Darren Farm' website before it is too

Name and address

Darren Farm: obvious solution

through in The GEM regarding housing development, not to mention your letters pages, it strikes me that the answer to the Vale's housing predicament is an

obvious one.By building homes at Darren Farm, it means that most of the development will take place on one site, a relatively sustainable one, close to roads and houses, rather than in lots of different locations.

Do we really want new housing springing up all across the Vale? Surely not! That would only spoil what makes the Vale special.

To me, Darren Farm seems to make sense, all the eggs in one basket so to speak. The alternative – hundreds of houses spread all across the Vale in unsustainable, unsightly places – simply doesn't bear thinking about.

Of course. Cowbridge doesn't want Darren Farm! But the alternative... well, it makes me shudder thinking about it. I think those living in villages around Cowbridge would do well to remember that

People have to live somewhere and this option seems to me to be the logical one.
Mrs S Appleton, Cardiff

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Jazz group meets

THE next meeting of the Vale Jazz group will be held this week. The group is hoping to organise a jazz festival weekend on June 19-21.

It will be held on Thursday, February 5 at 7pm at Barry Civic Offices.

On the agenda will be a presentation from licensing and an update on the Lottery bid. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

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Vale needs more coherent planning system' says reader

OUR correspondence page last week provided further debate about housing development in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Some points were made about rural 'nimbyism' The arguments in the rural Vale are not about opposing any housing development: we need additional housing in the villages, especially affordable housing as pointed out last week.

The real rural Vale housing issue is about

excessive development in a number of villages and in Cowbridge.

When so many communities across the whole Vale, including Barry, face such pressures, we need really good planning systems to ensure proportionate, sustainable development. The LDP is meant to provide a system of strategic planning which enables housing development to be on a sustainable basis in all Vale communities.

Instead, we now see developers sweeping aside

this process across the Vale by using planning loopholes.

What we are enduring is an incoherent planning system which is steadily undermining the character of this part of Wales. In reality what is taking place is the annexation of the Vale as an adjunct of a

rapidly expanding Cardiff conurbation.

This will be formalised shortly when the Welsh Government forces through the local government

Parking ticket

TESTERDAY (Sunday, February 1) 20 cars received parking tickets at Barry island front.

Young families taking exercise and walking their pets on the beach were targeted by traffic wardens. In these hard times families are looking at things to do, where they don't have to spend copious amounts of money and get their kids out in the fresh air away from Xboxes and other games consoles were targeted for parking in a bay which savs taxi rank!

There are no taxis

here. I walk my dog

in the winter something needs to be done about A lot of people can barely feed themselves these days so the cost of

every day and especially

a ticket is devastating to young and old. A Clarke, Barry

merger of the Vale Council with Cardiff. A rapidly expanding capital city can only go westwards into the rural Vale – there is no other source of extensive greenfield land to meet its

building needs. What has been lacking in the LDP arguments has been a justification as to why the relentless growth of Cardiff is unstoppable, so necessitating the Welsh Government to insist that the council

delivers 11,000 houses in the LDP.

There is a strong case that a coherent strategic planning system would focus on the economic reinvigoration of the South Wales valleys rather than viewing the Vale as an inevitable dormitory for the capital city.

Sue Eldridge in her letter last week made the essential point about bringing people from across the Vale together to resist inappropriate development.

How about starting with a debate before the general election among the Vale of Glamorgan parliamentary candidates about how we create a far more coherent planning system than what is currently unfolding before our eyes?

Paul Jeremy, Ystradowen (Vale Villages Together).

valevillagestogether@gmail.com

'I'm Welsh and proud of it!'

publicity in The GEM about the Welsh language: I totally agree with the letters in support of the language.

I am Welsh and proud of it (it is my first language and I have always spoken it).

I would also like to add that I am proud of the fact that I have lived very happily in Cowbridge for nearly 40 years

I do hope that you continue to include the page in our native language for many years to come. Mair James,

PLEASE COME TO THE RESCUE!



John Barrowman enjoys attention from rescue pup, Buttons, at the Dogs Trust.

S a patron of Dogs Trust, I'm writing to say a big thank you to players of People's Postcode Lottery for the £175,000 award given to help the charity care for more stray, abandoned and unwanted dogs this

Dogs Trust looks after over 17,000 dogs of all shapes and sizes every year across its 21 rehoming centres. The average cost of caring for a dog over the course of a year is around £1,275 and this award will go towards providing vital care. This can include

routine neutering and microchipping, vaccinations and other medical bills along with bedding, toys and the mileage costs of transporting dogs for

rehoming.
As Dogs Trust never puts a healthy dog to sleep, the charity makes additional efforts provide a comfortable, stimulating environment for the dogs to keep them happy in kennels while they await new

As a dog owner myself, I know how much love and companionship they can provide. If you're missing some love in your life, and think you could have time to offer a home to a dog, please consider a rescue from Dogs Trust. Your local rehoming

centre in Bridgend will be happy to help advise on the best dog for you. John Barrowman (Proud owner of Captain

Jack and Harris...oh, and entertainer!)

Bridgend best fit

WRITE to say how disappointed I was to hear that the Vale of Glamorgan is not to be allowed to merge with Bridgend.

I love Cardiff as our capital city, but I fear that the population of Cardiff (351,700 at the last census) will dominate the number of councillors, as opposed to those allowed for 127,159 in the Vale unitary authority

I feel that Bridgend, with 130,000, would have given us a fairer balance of councillors Gwen Baty,



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Students display their art exhibits at the Bay

degree art students from Cardiff and Vale College have organised a 'Combination' exhibition of their work in Cardiff Bay art venue 'Craft In The Bay'.

It features textiles ceramics and graphic design and will run at Craft In The Bay until March 19.
"This is the biggest

exhibition in Craft in the Bay that we have had yet," said Billy Adams, CAVC course leader for the foundation degree in art and ceramics.

"We have 12 students exhibiting in three disciplines – textiles, ceramics and graphic design. The work is based in part in the students' own personal views and work based on Cardiff Bay itself."

'Combination' will run at Craft In The Bay until March 19.

Charity coffee morning

THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor is hosting a charity coffee morning in aid of the National Coastwatch Institution, Barry Island, on Tuesday, February 10 from 10.30am - 12 noon Admission £1.50. All

a period of six months.

for Wales on 22nd January 2015.



The Sea View Lads

has seen several old has faces out fishing anglers and we are over the mystery trip unsure how it will affect dates, the boat trip is now again, along with the Peterson scale. "However, Many names appear in Doble has managed some recent Roger Green, Don catch on the 21st – that's Cook, Steve Jones about 4 ounces in old (and his namesake money! Johnny) have joined

A spokesman mystery trips. reported: "Their rewards "Meetings

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Local Government Investigations

(Functions of Monitoring Officers and

Standards Committees) (Wales)

Regulations 2001

The Standards Committee of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, on 31st July 2014, considered allegations that Community Councillor L. Scaglioni of Sully and Lavernock Community Council had failed to

comply with Paragraphs 4(b) and 6(1)(a) of the Community Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

The allegations were found to be proven by the Standards Committee, who determined that Councillor Scaglioni be suspended

from being a Member of Sully and Lavernock Community Council for

In accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 10 of the Local Government Investigations (Functions of Monitoring Officers and Standards Committees) (Wales) Regulations 2001, Community Councillor Scaglioni appealed to the Adjudication Panel for Wales

The Appeal was considered by a Tribunal of the Adjudication Panel

The Appeal Tribunal decided to overturn the determination of the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Standards Committee that Community

Council Scaglioni had breached the Sully and Lavernock Community

Council's Code of Conduct, and the sanction imposed by the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Standards Committee was rescinded.

A copy of the Notice of Decision is available on the Council's website,

and the Tribunal's full reasoned decision will be available on the

A copy of this report is available for inspection for 21 days from 5th February 2015 as follows:

against the decision of the Standards Committee.

THE start of 2015 scales for weighing fish will follow. kilo; third, P Coles, 1.87

results, good weights including a mighty 0.110kg total catch on the 21st – that's

"The social calendar is

have been mixed, with attended and it has been alternating weeks seeing nice to see some old good and poor weights faces return including being landed. The Bob Messerschmitt – introduction of metric perhaps Uncle Albert

rescheduled for April 4 members.
"However,
familiar illustrious chair,
Steve year to land some specimens so book a place quickly!
"At the last meeting,

members were treated to AWOL in his most splendid and belligerent form, supported ably by Johnny) have joined the regulars on the podium and long may this continue.

"The social calendar is torm, supported adily by already filling up, with names being taken for the Weymouth, Tenerife, Norway, West Wales and social support role the soc club now plays for its older and more vulnerable members.

"Membership fees for the coming year are now due – at just £15, it's due – at just £15, it's surely the best value ticket available for lovers of angling and good

results for Shore February 1: First, D fourth, S Doble 1.90 kg; Whitcombe 3.480 kilo; fifth, R Bond 1.65 kg; second, P Seaton, 3.140 sixth, A Harris 1.42 kg

1.320 kilo; fift, S Hinder 1.295 kilo; sixth, A Harris 0.590 kilo.

January 21: First, G Spiteri 1.080 kg; second, P Coles 1.005 kg; third, S Doble 0.110 kg

January 18: First, C Mckinnery 4.350kg; second, M Langford, 3.3660: third, P Crook 3.480; fourth, K Salah 3.170; fifth, D Cook 2.820; sixth, R Green 2.280. January 11: First, I

Coles 0.57 kg; second, A Harris 0.36 kg; third, S Davies 0.26 kg; fourth. M Langford.0.160; fifth. J Jones 0.130.

January 4: First, M Langford 4.92 kg; second, D Cook 2.42 kg; third, R Green 2.16 kg; D fourth, S Doble 1.90 kg;

Call to council: SORT OUT ESPLANADE

COMPLAINTS contractors' vans who addressed to Coun park there throughout the Anthony have town esplanade, been taken up by

He reported this week: "Local residents are becoming increasingly concerned at the delays in getting the pavements put to rights for pedestrians, who have found the footpath blocked for the best part of two years or so – while roadway outside Beachcliffe is issues on residents' continually taken up with behalf."

Ernest day, denying those living nearby and visitors from over continuing disruption along the valuable parking slot in pavement on the a popular area of the

The veteran councillor the Penarth said that the Vale Council has been asked to intervene to help resolve the situation, "a constant source of annoyance of an particularly to elderly

people living in adjacent Windsor Court". He added: "Should there be any similar or other problems in Plymouth Ward (South Penarth), I can always be contacted at Penarth 02920 702111, or by email. I will take up these

PACT meetings

BUTTRILLS PACT at Barry Town Council Offices, Gladstone Road, Barry today (February 5) at 6.30pm.

ILLTYD PACT at Aberthaw House Hotel,

Avenue, Penarth on February 13 at 7pm

Glamorgan GEM **Food For** Thought....

Who better than a French chef to advise on your Valentine's Day romantic meal?

by Gabrielle Fagan

The Nosh Pot Kitchen **Outside Catering**

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Starter
Red pepper soup (V)

Toast ciabatta with tomato, red onion & pesto oil (V)

Main
Roast chicken breast wrapped in Parma
ham stuffed with feta & sun dried tomato

Beetroot & caramelized onion tart (V) served with fondant potato, green beans & asparagus

A trio of dessert

White chocolate & raspberry cheesecake
Strawberry Eton mess
Chocolate brownie All for only £30 per couple Email: info@thenoshpot.co.uk

Web: www.thenoshpot.co.uk 07730032610

T'S that special day of the year and you want to treat your loved one to a seductive meal. Who better to advise you than Jean-Christophe Novelli, who has been described by the New York Times as 'the world's sexiest chef'? He devises a menu to appeal to all the senses with special recipes from his new book.

Just talking about food with TV chef, Jean-Christophe Novelli is a

sensual experience.

It's not just his dark looks, and chocolate brown eyes, but his passion and enthusiasm as he talks in his sexy, simmering French accent about the importance of "using ze flavours, and experimenting. It should be fun and sooo eezay. CONTINUED

ON PAGE 26



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Porthkerry Road, Barry on February 23 at 3pm. STANWELL PACT at The Pod, St Luke

• On the Vale of Glamorgan Council's website • The Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU, during normal office hours.

Adjudication Panel's website in due course.

Copies of this report can be provided at a charge of £1.00 per copy

Monitoring Officer
Vale of Glamorgan Council Civic Offices Barry CF63 4RU 5th February 2015



Glamorgan GEM Food For Thought....

Jean Christophe's food ideas

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

I guarantee even those with a serious allergy to a hot stove would find it difficult to resist rushing to tangle with some pans and rustling up a feast

just to impress him. So the man who's been described as able to make women 'swoon at the flick of his whisk seemed the ideal person to turn to for advice on preparing a romantic meal for Valentine's Day.

He says wisely: "Ahh, food can be very sexy but it's definitely not enough on its own to seduce a woman – you need to have that special connection

"Many men tend to try to over-impress if they cook for a woman and it often ends in disaster. Women also can try too hard to make an over-elaborate dish, which is tiring to prepare and then they are hardly likely to be in the mood for romance after all that effort."

Instead, Jean-Christophe believes simple and easy and bursting with flavour is the recipe for success on Valentine's Day and for the rest of the year also, come to that.
"The secret to any

romantic meal is to make

it look as effortless as

Ideally, choose recipes that you can prepare beforehand, so you minimise the amount of time you spend in the kitchen. After all, your attention should be

totally on your partner.
The multi-Michelinstarred chef has gathered together a treasure trove of accessible and inspiring recipes in his book, Everyday Novelli. He wants it to be like

a friend in the kitchen and "end up covered in butter and flour as you cook from it day after day..." (see, he even manages to make the book itself sound yummy!).

He's been married twice but is now happily settled with Irishwoman Michelle Kennedy, 30, and has dedicated the book to "the woman I love so, so much,

But she may miss out on a romantic Valentine's celebration with him as he usually works on that day.

If he does prepare a cosy-together evening the ingredients are: "Start with champagne (always the best), well chilled and perhaps with a few canapes with

or some finger food. Definitely nothing too

heavy. "Remember to concentrate on the food your partner likes, and avoid strong food that taints your breath and colours your teeth.

"Romantic ingredients come in many forms, but vanilla and honey have to be some of the most widely recognised ones, along with soft ice cream and chocolates.

Be inspired by Jean-Christophe and win a lover's heart by serving two of his dishes, a 'Cod Brandade Glazed With Red Peppers', and a dessert which can be prepared in advance and is "probably the most sensual recipe in my book" – Iced White Chocolate With Whisky. Everyday Novelli by

Jean-Christophe Novelli, published by Headline, £20, is available now.

COD BRANDADE GLAZED WITH RED PEPPERS

Serves two. (This dish works equally well if you use salmon or haddock). Use a tender fillet of cod. If the fish has the skin on, ask the fishmonger to skin it for you. When making the

mashed potato, I use floury potatoes – ideal

for mashing.
Prep time: 15 minutes Cooking time: 10 ninutes

Ingredients: 200g fresh raw cod fillet, skinned and

8-10 fresh basil

leaves, torn.
1 garlic clove, peeled and chopped.
10ml olive oil. lemon juice

100g hot mashed

20ml double cream 15g unsalted butter. 1/2tsp freshly grated nutmeg

1 red pepper, stalk removed, halved and deseeded.

1 bay leaf

2 sprigs fresh thyme, stalks removed. freshly Salt and

ground black pepper. Pinch caster sugar.

2tbsp water. 2 slices Cheddar

Pinch paprika.

To serve: 1 baguette.
Preheat the oven to a pestle and mortar, pound together the cod, basil, garlic, one teaspoon of the olive oil and a dash of lemon juice until it forms a paste. Alternatively, blitz in a

add the hot mashed from the fridge.

potatoes, cream, butter Continue stir and nutmeg. Beat to combine and set aside.

or

blender

Heat the remaining olive oil in an ovenproof frying pan with a lid, and when very hot, add the red pepper, together with the bay leaf, thyme, seasoning and sugar.
Once the peppers have

slightly browned, after 3-4 minutes, add the water to create steam. Cover immediately with a lid and put straight into the preheated oven for two minutes.

Remove from the oven and fill each pepper half with the fish paste. Cover with a thin slice of cheese and sprinkle

Return to the hot over and bake for a further 12 minutes. Preheat the grill until hot. Cut the hot. Cut baguette

under the preheated grill until golden brown.

Serve the peppers with the toasted baguette.

ICED WHITE CHOCOLATE WITHWHISKY

Serves 6-12 (so there's plenty left over for other romantic occasions!).

Prep time: 5 minutes Chill time: one hour. Ingredients: 200g white chocolate.

20ml whisky, chilled. 180ml double cream chilled.

Break the chocolate into very small pieces. 200C/fan 180C/Gas 4. In Put a non-stick saucepan on a low heat until just warm. Remove from the heat.

Add chocolate and stir with a wooden spoon so that the chocolate melts very food slowly.

Add the whisky and

Turn into a bowl and double cream straight

Continue stirring until slight ribbons form.

Pour into an ice-cube ay or ice-lolly moulds tray and freeze for at least one hour.



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Sally Holland named new Children's Commissioner

communities and tackling poverty, Lesley Griffiths, has announced the appointment of Professor Sally Holland as the new Children's Commissioner for Wales.

She is currently a professor at the School of Social Sciences at Cardiff University, and director and founder of CASCADE Children's Social Care Research Centre.

Prof Holland is internationally acclaimed for enabling children and young people to represent their own views through active participation in her research. Her areas of expertise include children's rights, Welsh children's views about citizenship and identity, looked after children, child protection and adoption.

She has also campaigned for, and researched, the needs and rights of children and will be taking over from outgoing commissioner, Keith Towler,

whose seven year tenure will shortly come to an end. The Deputy Children's Commissioner, Eleri Thomas, will assume the functions of the Children's Commissioner until Sally Holland takes up the role in April, ensuring continuity of service for children and young people in Wales.

Announcing the appointment, Lesley Griffiths AM, said: "As a Government, we want to ensure Wales is a place where children's rights are a reality, and where their voices are heard loud and

clear.
"I am delighted Professor Sally Holland will be taking up the position as the next Children Commissioner for Wales and warmly welcome her to this important role. I am confident her range of experience in social work and children's rights, and her proven commitment to empowering children and young people, will make her a strong ambassador on their behalf.

"I would also like to express my sincere thanks to the outgoing commissioner, Keith Towler, for his commitment and achievements during his seven

year term." Sally Holland, said: "I am delighted and honoured to have been appointed to be the next

"I am proud of Wales' history of promoting children's and young people's rights and I will work hard to ensure that this continues and strengthens, building on the excellent work of the first two commissioners.

"Children and young people face new opportunities and challenges in contemporary society. I will work with the children and young people of Wales to ensure that their rights are safeguarded and promoted."

Support for Macmillan more vital than ever

LAST year was a recordbreaking one for Macmillan Cancer Support in Wales, with cancer diagnosis on the increase, and more people living with, and beyond cancer than ever before. Public support for fundraising is more vital now, than ever.

A spokeswoman said: :During 2014, our fantastic supporters in Wales did all sorts of events, including, coffee mornings, auctions, variety nights and even white collar boxing, all of which helped us achieve our best ever vear, but that doesn't mean we don't need your help in 2015 and

beyond.
"Macmillan Cancer Support is entirely funded by donations, without which we simply could not give the invaluable support and services to those affected by cancer, in Wales. We are always looking to expand our services in

Wales, and whether it's expanding our team of professionals or providing advice leaflets, we need your help. "In 2013, we invested over

"In 2013, we invested over £3.2 million in cancer services in Wales – this figure rises annually. We know that by 2030, it is expected that over a quarter of a million people in Wales will be living with and beyond cancer, which equates to 90,000 in south east and mid Wales, and to put that into perspective, that number of people would fill the
Millennium Stadium three times.
She added: "We want to thank

each and every person and business who has supported Macmillan Cancer Support in 2014. Whether you donate at a till point in your local store, or organise a cappuccino-filled

coffee morning, we thank you.'

If you want to get involved,
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MURISSED is celebrating 10 years









A Llantwit Major beauty salon is planning to make February a special month as it celebrates its 10th

anniversary. It was 10 years ago this month that Vicki Wiggins bought a small tanning salon. It was something that Vicki had always wanted to do and thought that

the premises had great potential. In 10 years, what was once just a tanning business with one small beauty room, has grown rapidly

Vicki told The GEM: "Our clients' needs and requirements were always at the forefront of our minds and, as a result, we now have four lovely treatment rooms and a relaxation area".

Learning what clients valued and appreciated was key and, within 12 months of taking over, Vicki took on the Dermalogica range of skin products - a quality range that is a market leader in the skin care industry.

Staff who get on well with customers and who become part of the family are important, and two of the Sunkissed team, Jo James and Sara Harris, have been there from day one. Billie and Danika have joined us in more recent years and have complimented our team





Loval staff, combined with loval customers, have enabled Sunkissed to thrive, ride out the recession, and keep adding extra treatments along the way Vicki said: "One of our treatment rooms is a double room, ideal for being pampered together with a loved one or friend.

"We also have a cosy relaxation area that is perfect for pamper parties, relaxing on your own or enjoying a girly chat with friends over a glass of bubbly

"After leaving the tranquil section you enter into the heart of Sunkissed, where you will find two nail stations, client seating, sunbeds coupled with laughter, chatter and fun".

One of the things that makes Vicki happiest are the Facebook posts that show that clients value that fun atmosphere just as much as the staff do.

Sunkissed is far more than a tanning salon, and it offers a full range of treatments, including holistic, reflexology, aromatherapy and Indian head massage to name just a few.

Vicki also invested in a new State of the art Dermaco machine last summer, which means they offer microdermabrasion, non-surgical face lifts, and light therapy which dramatically reduces fine lines and wrinkles and helps with acne ring and other skin conditions.





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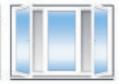
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9 Triple Glazed Windows	£6,156	£79.59	£18.37
10 Triple Glazed Windows	£6,840	£88.43	£20.41























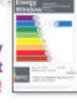
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CEFYDLWYD Menter Bro Morgannwg yn 2013, Ogyda'r nod o gynyddu'r defnydd o'r Gymraeg ar lefel gymunedol ym Mro Morgannwg.

Rydym yn falch iawn i barhau â'r bartneriaeth newydd yma gyda'r Glamorgan GEM, ac fe fyddwn yn cydlynu tudalennau misol Cymraeg yn y papur, fydd yn cael ei gyhoeddi ar ddydd Iau cyntaf pob mis.

MENTER Bro Morganing was community with the aim of increasing the use of the Welsh with the Welsh of Clamorgan. [ENTER Bro Morgannwg was established in 2013, language on a community level in the Vale of Glamorgan.

We are very pleased to be continuing our new partnership with the Glamorgan GEM, and we will be co-ordinating Welsh language pages in the paper, which will be published on the first Thursday of

Mabinogi, i weithiau a bywyd Saunders Lewis,

Gymraeg, nofealu modern â'r clysuron i ysgrifennu creadigol. Roedd y 3 mlynedd yn anhygoel ac enillais 2.1

Yn dilyn graddio cefais 2 flynedd o weithio fel athro iaith

gyntaf Gymraeg. Ond,

nid oedd addysg yn yr hyn yr oeddwn yn

disgwyl (a fe wnewn ni

gadw hi ar hynny!). Ond

nawr rydw i wedi glanio

gweitngaredd ar y diwedd. Ewch i'r wefan

i archebu'ch lle, byddwn

https://welshforadults.ca

ar ben hvnnv!

ddrama

GOFAL GWYLIAU CYFRWNG CYMRAEG

RYDYM yn falch iawn i gyhoeddi bod y Fenter wedi derbyn cyllid i sefydlu Gofal Gwyliau Cyfrwng Cvnllun newydd sbon ym Mro Cymraeg Morgannwg.

Gan dechrau yn hanner tymor Chwefror 2015, fe fydd y gwasanaeth yn cael ei gynnal yn ystod pob gwyliau ysgol (ag eithrio'r Nadolig), o ddydd Llun i ddydd Gwener, 8.30am – 5.30pm. Caiff ei gynnal yn Ysgol Nant Talwg, ond mae'n agored i holl blant ysgolion cynradd Cymraeg Bro

Morgannwg.

Bydd hwn yn wasanaeth allweddol o bwysig i rieni sydd yn gorfod parhau i weithio yn ystod cyfnodau o wyliau ysgol, a gyda dros 90% o ddisgyblion ysgolion Cymraeg y Sir yn dod o gartrefi di-Gymraeg, bydd hefyd yn cynnig cyfloedd hollbwysig i'r plant i barhau i ddefnyddio cymraef au Cymraeg y thallaid i ddefnyddio

ac ymarfer eu Cymraeg y tu allan i dymor ysgol. Rydym wedi llunio amserlen lawn weithgareddau ar gyfer hanner tymor Chwefror gan gynnwys Gweithdy Crefftau, Gemau Bwrdd, Reptiliaid, Coginio, Gweithdy Chwaraeon yr Urdd, Trip i'r Sinema, Gweithdy Dawns, Gemau Parasiwt, Parti Pitsa, Disco a llawer mwy!

Os hoffech chi fwy o wybodaeth, neu i gofrestru eich plentyn ar gyfer y Cynllun Gofal, cysylltwch â ni: ffion@menterbromorgannwg.org / 029 20689888

Os ydych yn rieni sy'n gweithio, fe allwch fod â'r hawl i gael Credyd Treth i deuluoedd sy'n gweithio, a hawlio hyd at 80% o'ch costau gofal plant yn ôl drwy'r elfen Credyd Treth Gofal Plant. Am fwy o wybodaeth ynglŷn â hyn ffoniwch 0345 300 3900

Gwersi Nofio'r Urdd

RYDYM yn rhedeg gwersi nofio mewn pedwar lleoliad gwahanol ar draws Y Fro gan gynnwys Canolfan Hamdden Penarth, Coleg vr Iwerydd, Canolfan Hebron a Chanolfan Hamdden Y Barri.

Mae'r gwersi vn dilyn strwythur nofio a lefelau Nofio Cymru.

Mae'r gwersi yn rhedeg trwy'r flwyddyn. Dewch i vmuno gvda'r sesivnau hwvlus!

Cvsvlltwch â garetheast@urdd.org neu rhowch alwad ar 07557 322891 am fwy o wybodaeth!



Cyflwyno Swyddog Lled Ffurfiol newydd Canolfan Cymraeg i Oedolion Caerdydd a'r Fro

HELO, fy enw i yw Glyn Swyddog Lled **Ffurfiol** newydd Canolfan Cymraeg i Oedolion Caerdydd a'r Fro.

Dyma fy mlwyddyn gyntaf yn y swydd ond mae rhaid i mi gyfaddef, rwy'n ei charu yn barod. Mae'r Gymraeg yn golygu cymaint i fi, mae'n iaith gyfoethog llawn urddas gyda llenyddiaeth anhygoel 'w chlodfori.

yn Gymro a mae'r i'r Brifysgol, swydd yn fy siwtio i'r swydd, priodi, dim. Ynghlwm â hyn, plant, marw. rwy'n dysgu Cymraeg i Roedd gen i stadiwm Dinas Caerdydd sy'n Brother.

Ond, yn gyntaf mae'n bwysig cyflwyno fy hunan. a fy ngwladgarwch i Rwy'n wreiddiol o bobl na fyddai erioed yn Flaenau Ffestiniog ond crybwyll pwysigrwydd nawr rwy'n byw yng yr iaith a'i diwylliant. Nghaerdydd ers 8 Roedd yn braf gweld y

Tŵr astudio'r Gwenlyn



Glyn Wise

cael

rwy'n dysgu Cymraeg i Roedd gen i ofn Fe wn oedolion fel tiwtor yn hynny. Felly, cymerais y Cymraeg

mlynedd. Ni Gymraeg yn can ddychmygais y byddwn defnyddio ar Sianeli eisiau. Edrycnais an yn byw yn y ddinas fawr Saesneg a phapurau sialens newydd. ht ddrwg pan oeddwn yn Llundain yn trafod yr iaith. Wrth grwydro maes rd yr Eisteddfod yn 2008, k gwelais stondin c

gan wneud taith ysgolion yn astudio BA Parry, p w y s l e i s i sylweddolais fod bywyd pwysigrwydd yr iaith. erioed!
gyda rhestr fawr o Yn y cyfamser roeddwn Roed

cyflwyno yflwyno Planed ar S4C, BBC ennill Radio Cymru a gweithio mewn clybiau nos ledled Prydain.

yngyntaf mae'n fy mod yn loo glwb nos, hyd yn oed Ayre yn yr Alban.

Agorodd y sioe ble doedd y pobl ddim dysgwyr yn cael ei yn gyntaf mae'n gymaint o gyfleoedd i yn deall fy Saesneg gynnal ar y 14eg ol fy hunan. a fy ngwladgarwch i y Gymraeg!

Yng ynghtaf mae'n gymaint o gyfleoedd i yn deall fy Saesneg gynnal ar y 14eg ol fy hunan. a fy ngwladgarwch i y Gymraeg!

Yng Nghaerdydd a'r Fro.

Cofiwch bydd y cwrs
oed Ayre yn yr Alban, Sadwrn nesaf i ddysgwyr yn cael ei gynnal ar y 14eg ol fy hunan. a fy ngwladgarwch i y Gymraeg!

Yng Nghaerdydd a'r Fro.

Cofiwch bydd y cwrs
oed Ayre yn yr Alban, Sadwrn nesaf i ddysgwyr yn cael ei gynnal ar y 14eg ol fy hunan. a fy ngwladgarwch i y Gymraeg!

Ffestiniog ond crybwyll pwrs ymhen dwy flynedd, teimlais fy mod wedi mlynedd. Ni Gymraeg yn cael ei gwneud popeth oeddwn i yno i'ch croesawu ddychmygais y byddwn defnyddio ar Sianeli eisiau. Edrychais am chi –

Daeth y dyhead am Roedd hynny'n wych. gwelais stondin newid pan oeddwn yn y Yna, es ymlaen i weithio Prifysgol Caerdydd. Yn 6ed dosbarth. Wrth gyda Bwrdd Yr Iaith i ffodus iawn, cefail le i o Gymraeg, y dewis gorau

Angharad

WEL! Pwy feddylie!

Wedi tudalennau cyhoeddi Cymraeg cyntaf y Gem gan gynnwys fy ngholofn i yn cymylau Newyddion' i'r tŷ

vmateb fel gwnaethpwyd

ar fy nhraed ac edrychaf llythyrwr anhysbys yn siopa yn Waitrose? Mae ymlaen i gydweithio a chwrdd gyda phawb yn gweithgareddau

lleol gan gynnwys dangos parch mawr i'r Gymraeg. Mae Waitrose fel rhan

rdiff.ac.uk/learning/wee courses/cowbridgesaturday-course.
Glyn Wise

canmol cymuned fechan glos gyfeillgar y Bontfaen, roedd hi'n dipyn o ysgytwad dair wythnos yn ddiweddarach i fod yn croesawii vmateb i'r llythyrwr dienw a ddywedod bod y Bontfaen Bontfaen yn dre lwyddiannus oherwydd nad oedd Cymraeg yno! Cofiwch, roeddwn i'n

falch i gael y cyfle i ganmol papur Y GEM am ei weledigaeth a'r agwedd bositif dros yr iaith ac am wrth wneud yn glir nad oedd llythyrwr gan y papur. Sgwn i os y

gen i syniad rywsut ei fod ddwyieithrwydd e/hi y teip fyddai falch o dim ond yn y arddel siop mor chwaethus yn y dre heb sylweddoli cymaint mae'r siop yma'n gyfrannu yn

flaen v gad wrth sicrhau hawliau teg i'w staff a'r mis yma fe fydd pob un o'r staff yn rhannu £22 miliwn ychwanegol o dâl bonws yn sgil y ddeddf newydd am daliadau gwyliau.

sy'n cymryd gofynion y



gymuned leol i ystyriaeth. agorodd Lewis siop yng nghanol Caerdydd, roedd angen tua mil o weithwyr arnynt. Fel rhan o'i strategaeth busnes ni chlywyd yr un esgus trist bod angen cyflogi o ochr arall clawdd offa er mwyn cefnogaeth i sylwadau'r cael y bobl iawn -llythyrwr gan y papur. aethpwyd ati'n fwriadol i gyflogi a hyfforddi pobl leol.

Rhoddwyd lle amlwg i dim ond yn y mannau cyhoeddus ond yn y swyddfeydd tu cefn hefyd. Nid sioe o gefnogi Cymreictod oedd hyn, ond rhan o ethos bwriadol.

Ac os cwmni grwp John Lewis ar llewyrchus fel hyn yn gallu dangos v fath barch. gan gofio mai busnes i wneud elw yn y pendraw yw hanfod siop, onid yw hi'n syfrdanol bod rhai sy'n dal i weld 'oasis' o Seisnigrwydd yn gaffaeliad, yn hytrach na Ond yn yr un mor gallu agor eu llygaid i bwysig yw nôd y siop i ymddwyn mewn modd bywyd mae'r iaith Gymraeg yn ei wneud.

Cynnydd o 100% yng nghyllideb Menter Bro Morgannwg

AR Ionawr 9fed, fe gyhoeddodd Prif
Weinidog Cymru bod £3.6 miliwn o
gymorth ariannol ychwanegol ar gyfer
hybu'r Gymraeg ar draws Cymru yn
ystod 2015-16. Bydd 34 o sefydliadau yn
elwa o'r pecyn hwn, gyda phob un o'r
Mentrau Iaith yn derbyn lleiafswm o
£60,000 yr un o gyllid craidd.

sylweddol o gymorth ariannol a fydd yn helpu â'r
gwaith o hybu'r Gymraeg mewn trefi a chymunedau
ar draws Cymru yn ystod 2015-16. Mae'r
Llywodraeth yn awyddus i sicrhau iaith fyw sy'n
ffynnu a bydd yr arian hwn yn ein helpu i gyflawni'r
ymrwymiadau sydd wrth wraidd Bwrw Mlaen."
"Hoffem annog pobl i fod â'r hyder i
ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg yn eu bywydau bob dydd ac
o fewn eu cymunedau lleol. Bydd y pecyn hwn o
arian yn ein helpu i gyflawni hyn. Bydd yn ei £60,000 yr un o gyllid craidd.

Mae hyn yn newyddion da iawn i Fenter Bro Morgannwg, ac yn golygu bod incwm y Fenter oddi wrth Llywodraeth Cymru yn dyblu yn 2015-16. Bydd hyn yn ein galluogi i gynyddu'r nifer o weithgareddau gallwn eu trefnu yn y Sir fydd yn

Dywedodd y Prif Weinidog: "Dyma becyn Morgannwg ar Twitter a Facebook.

arian yn ein helpu i gyflawni hyn. Bydd yn ei gwneud hi'n bosibl i ddatblygu prosiectau newydd gwahanol a chyffrous sy'n cefnogi gweithgareddau Cymraeg ar lawr gwlad ac yn creu rhagor o gyfleodd."

Ewch arwain at gynyddu'r defnydd cymunedol o'r (www.menterbromorgannwg.org) i weld newyddion Gymraeg ym Mro Morgannwg.

MERCHED Y WAWR

gydlynu cyfres o Rhiannon Roberts yn ddigwyddiadau i hyrwyddo (1.00 – 3.00 o'r gloch). dyfeisgarwch a Chymreictod Ddydd Mercher 25ain o Fawrth 2015.

Croeso cynnes i unrhyw ferch sy'n ddod i glywed am brofiadau eraill a 01970

Cynhelir nifer o weithgareddau drwy gydol y diwrnod, gan gynnwys sesiwn Ffotograffiaeth, Bylbiau a mwy gan Llinos Lanini a Choginio a busnes 'Pumpkin Patch' gyda Lisa Fearn yn y Mawrth 2015

MAE Merched y Wawr wedi bore (10.00 - 12.00 o'r gloch), a derbyn cyllid o gronfa Bwrw Gosod Blodau gydag Ann Mears, a Mlaen Llywodraeth Cymru i sesiwn yn trafod Bywyd Artist gyda o Rhiannon Roberts yn y prynhawn

Ni ddarperir cinio na phaned ymysg merched, ac fe fydd un prynhawn ond mae gweddill y diwrnod o'r digwyddiadau hynny yn yn rhad ac am ddim, diolch i nawdd digwydd yma ym Mro gan Grant 'Bwrw Mlaen' Llywodraeth digwydd yma ym Mro gan Grant 'Bwrw Mlaen' Llywodraeth Morgannwg! Fe'i gynhelir yng Cymru. Bydd modd archebu cinio yn Ngwesty'r Bear y Bontfaen, ar y gwesty ar ôl cyrraedd yn y bore os dymunwch. Diolch hefyd i Menter a Busnes am eu cydweithrediad.

Rhaid cofrestru ymlaen llaw trwy siarad Cymraeg neu yn ddysgwraig ffonio swyddfa Merched y Wawr swyddfa@merchedywawr.com bostio at Swyddfa Merched y Wawr, Efail, Stryd Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 1JH erbyn 18

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Cyflwynwraig o'r Barri yn Ennill Palfrey Pryd o Sêr!

ddarlledwyd y gyfres ddiweddaraf o Pryd o Sêr ar S4C. Yn cystadlu eleni roedd yr actores Rhian Jones y cyflwynwyr Llinos Lee, Morgan Jones, John Hardy a Meinir Howells, yr athletwr Aled Siôn Davies, cyfarwyddwr cerdd Only Men Aloud Tim Rhys-Evans a'r gantores Toni Caroll.

Y cogydd Dudley Newbery a'r gyflwynwraig Emma Walford oedd wrth y llyw ac yn gosod cyfres o heriau i'r sêr i wthio eu sgiliau coginio, a'u hamynedd, i'r eithaf.

hamynedd, i'r eithaf Rhannwyd yr enwogion i ddau dîm-glas ac oren – ac yn ystod y gyfres bu'n rhaid iddynt baratoi cwrs cyntaf mai'r rfin glas oedd yn fuddugol, ac fe cywrain, gwneud pob math o fara, coginio cigoedd gwahanol, paratoi detholiad o bwdinau blasus a bwydo 130 o blant a rhieni llwglyd Côr Ieuenctid Môn.

Erbyn y rhaglen derfynol, bu'n rhaid i'r sêr goginio pryd tri chwrs i safon tŷ bwyta seren Michelin ar gyfer dros 80 o westeion arbennig - a dros eu hanner yn gynhyrchwyr bwyd llwyddiannus.

Ar ben hynny, ymhlith y gwesteion y profiad. hefyd roedd Aelodau Cynulliad Llongy Cenedlaethol Cymru, a dau gogydd o fri; Aled Williams un o enillwyr cystadleuaeth The Great British Menu,

Hanes yr Arth?
PE baech wedi arfer â gyrru o

Gaerdydd i Bentyrch - er mwyn

gwrando ar gyn-gystadleuydd rhaglen realiti yn canu er enghraifft, neu i geisio dod o hyd

Dylai'r enw yna ganu cloch, ac yn wir yn y cyd-destun hwnnw dydy'r term 'garth' ddim yn teimlo'n estron iawn, hyd yn oed i bobl nad sydd yn byw yn ardal Penarth ym Mro



Cyflwynwraig o'r Barri yn ennill 'Pryd o Sêr'.

a Mark Threadgill, prif gogydd gwesty

wobrwywyd Llinos Lee yn 'Brif

Gogydd' y gyfres!

Merch o'r Barri yw Llinos – yn gyn Merch o'r Barri yw Llinos – yn gynddisgybl Ysgol Sant Baruc – ac fe'i gwelwch hi ar y teledu'n aml fel cyflwynwraig y rhaglen 'Heno'. Wrth sôn am ei phrofiadau'n cystadlu ar Pryd o Sêr eleni, dywedodd Llinos mai dyna oedd "wythnos caleta fy mywyd erioed", ond ei bod wir wedi mwynhau

Mynd am dro yn y Fro

Morgannwg. david@cymuneuau.org ned no byd i'r union le ar 02920 707 469.

David Wyn Williams

garth fel petai.

Llongyfarchiadau mawr i ti! Mae 'Pryd o Sêr' ar gael i'w wylio eto ar S4C Clic tan Chwefror 15fed-

'mynydd" chwedlonol Pentyrch yn dod

A thrwy hynny fel gwelwch chi nawr yn ddi-os tarddiad yr enw Penarth, neu

Pen-y-garth fel yr amlygir gan yr Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg leol o'r radd flaenaf.

wrth ddibyn y garth, neu ben y

Sêr gan Eiry **AQUARIUS**



Eiry Palfrey

cawsoch eich geni rhwng Ionawr 21ain a Chwefror 19eg rydych chi'n perthyn i'r arwydd Aquarius; arwydd daear dan reolaeth planed oriog Wranws.

Rydych felly kydych felly yn berson gwreiddiol, annibynnol, 'gwahanol', ac yn un sy'n mwynhau rhyddid, er y gallwch chi fod yn rebel croes ac anodd ar adegau. Mae gyda chi deimladu ar f gyda chi deimladau cryf dros neu yn erbyn pob peth, ac mae hynny'n gwneud eich ymddangos yn styfnig

Mae pethau newydd gwahanol bob amser yn apelio atoch chi. Mae'n ws i chi garu llawer o bobl nag un person, a gall hynny eich gwneud ymddangos yn oeraidd a phell.

Does dim dal beth vnewch chi nesa, rydych renginant, i'r defaid sydd yn ôl pob son yn crwydro'r mynydd agos – fe ddowch chi yn gyntaf i'r garth; i waelod y garth i ddweud y gwir sydd wrth gwrs wrth ymyl pentref Browelod-v-Garth.

Ar siwinpen i 1902.

geiriau "Gorau Awen Gwirionedd" a dyna fydd y golofn hon yn ceisio bob mis wrth gyflwyno enw pentrefi a threfi sydd wrth gwrs wrth ymyl pentref Browelod-v-Garth.

Cwoolod-v-Garth. chi'n berson yn llawn cywreinrwydd ac yn cywreinrwydd ac yn glyfar tu hwnt. Eich nod mynegi'ch wybodaeth

Rydych chi'n dueddol i ddelfrydu pob peth. Mae'n gas gyda chi gaethiwed, mae rhyddid n holl bwysig i chi, ac fe fynnwch chi gael eich rhyddid a'ch ffordd eich bob amser. chi'n caru hunan Rydych

dynoliaeth, ac mae'ch cyfeillion yn bwysig awn i chi. Rydych chi'n ffrind

triw a ffyddlon ond cewch eich brifo i'r byw os byddai cyfaill yn eich gadael i lawr.

enwog Aquariaid Barry Humphreys (Edna Everage), Syr Geraint Evans, Rupert Moon, Syr Wynff Elis-Owen Thomas, Germaine Greer.



BLWYDDYN NEWYDD YN YSGOL IOLO MORGANWG

BU'N gychwyn cyffrous i'r flwyddyn newydd yn Ysgol Iolo Morganwg. Cawsom ymweliad gan y Fari Lwyd a ddaeth i'n hatgoffa o hen draddodiad Gymreig a rhan bwysig o'n diwylliant yma yng Nghymru. Cafodd groeso mawr i'n gwasanaeth ac fe fu canu hwyliog i'w chyfarch.

Mae'r Clwb Dawnsio Gwerin wedi bod vn cwrdd yn wythnosol ac maent yn ymarfer yn ddiwyd ar gyfer yr Eisteddfod. Da gweld criw o blant yn

gyter yr Eistedardd. Da gweld criw o biant yn mynychu'r sesiynau dawnsio – cadw'n heini ac yn mwynhau ar yr un pryd. Lawnsiwyd ein cynllun Mêts Mas Tu Fas gyda swyddogion o flwyddyn 5 a 6 yn cynorthwyo plant yn ystod amser chwarae a chinio. Cânt wisgo capiau pêl fas glas fel bo pawb yn gwybod at bwy i droi am gyngor, cwmni neu hwyl.

gyngor, cwinii rac inwy.

Maent hefyd yn gyfrwng ardderchog i disgyblion blwyddyn 2 a 3. Y nôd f hyrwyddo'r defnydd o'r iaith Gymraeg ar yr iard ac darllen am fwynhad a thrafodaeth o'r annog chwarae gemau trwy'r Gymraeg. cymeriadau a'r themau Bu'r Llysgenhadon yn cwrdd er mwyn trafod sgiliau darllen a llafar!



cychwyn system bydis darllen. Y bwriad yw y bydd partneriaid o flwyddyn 5 a 6 yn darllen gyda disgyblion blwyddyn 2 a 3. Y nôd fydd annog cymeriadau a'r themau. Cyfle gwych i ddatblygu

<u> Llais Lleol – Rh</u>odri Ogwen

MAE Rhodri Ogwen yn wyneb cyfarwydd sydd wedi gwethio'n helaeth i S4Č ac i Sky vn Llundain, ond erbyn hyn mae'n byw a'n gweithio yng nghanol y Dwyrain Canol!

YM mha ardal o'r Fro gafoch chi eich geni a'ch

magu?
Ges i ngeni yng Nghaerdydd yn Ysbyty Dewi Sant a wedyn byw yn Radyr nes yn bedair ond wedyn symudodd y teulu i'r Barri. Symudon ni i ardal y Knap lawr wrth lan y môr tu nôl I Bindles.

Roedd yn ardal hyfryd i dyfu fyny. Ma mam a dad yn dal i fyw yn y Barri ond wedi symud i Ynys Y Barri vda *Gavin a Stace*v

Beth yw eich atgofion am eich plentyndod yn Y Fro?

Roedd y Fro yn hyfryd o le i dyfu fyny. Chwarae pêl droed yn Romilly Park, archwilio a gwersylla ym Mharc Porthceri. Bob haf bydden i a'n ffrindie yn y Pwll Agored lawr yn y Knap bob dydd.

Pan es i i'r coleg yng Nghaerdydd fe ddes i nôl I'r pwll yn yr haf i weithio fel 'lifeguard'. Dwi ddim yn cofio treulio unrhyw amser tu fewn yn y tŷ. Ar ôl dod ôl o'r ysgol fydde pawb fel tase'n nhw'n ymgynnyll tu allan i fy nhŷ i ac wedyn yn mynd allan i chwarae. Dwi'n cofio fe'n le diogel iawn i dyfu fyny ac roedd

byw ond tafliad carreg o'r môr yn hyfryd o beth.

Rydych chi'n gyn-ddisgybl Ysgol Sant Baruc yn y Barri – pa athro / athrawes gafodd y mwyaf o ddylanwad arnoch?

Ma hwn yn gwestiwn anodd oherwydd dwi ishe dweud pawb. Yr athrawes gynta dwi'n cofio ydy Eleri Hourahane neu Miss Davies.

Roedd hi'n hyfryd ac yn barod i roi cwtsh i fi pan ro'n i bach yn drist yn ceisio ymgartrefi yn fy ysgol newydd. Roedd hi'n aelod o'r run capel, Tabernael yn y Barri hefyd, ac felly fe fydde'n i'n ei gweld yn hwyrach yn fy mywyd hefyd. Ar ôl Coed yr Odyn a Saint Francis, ymlaen i St

Baruc. Roedd Elwyn Richards yn brifathro gwych ac yn un da am ddisgyblaeth.

Roedd Freda Evans yn llawn egni fel athrawes ac yn sicr fe ddysges i lot wrthi hi ac o'r ochr chwaraeon a dawnsio Gwerin, Goronwy Jones. Ma meddwl am bob un o'r bobl yma yn dod nôl ag atgofion hyfryd i mi. **Dwedwch ychydig wrthom am ble rydych chi'n byw**

a'n gweithio nawr.

Dwi'n gweithio ym gweithio yn Qatar, sef gwlad cyfoethoca'r byd. Dwi yng nghanol y Dwyrain Canol. Dwi'n gweithio ym myd teledu ac yn mwynhau'r sialens wrth i'r wlad baratoi ar gyfer cwpan Pêl Droed y Byd yn 2022.

Pa mor aml fyddwch chi'n dod nôl gartref i Gymru?

Fe fyddai nôl yng Nghymru rhyw dair/bedair gwaith y flwyddyn ac yn dod a fy merch Jodie lawr gyda fi. Ma Jodie yn chwech nawr ac wrth ei bodd ar Ynys y Barri gyda a mam a dad a pan fyddwn ni gyd yn mynd

lawr i Drefdraeth, yn Sir Benfro. Mae bwriad i ail-fuddsoddi yn Ffair Ynys y Barri. Oes gennych chi atgofion o fynd i'r Ffair pan oeddech yn blentyn, a gyda phwy oeddech chi'n

Wel, dwi'n cofio treulio oriau yn y ffair bob penwythnos yn enwedig pan oeddwn yn 16eg. Ond roeddwn hefyd yn treulio lot o amser yn Butlins. Fues i'n gweithio yno ac yn ffrindie gyda teulu Billy Butlin for gweithin on ac yn ffrindie gyda teulu Billy Butlin felly roeddwn i a fy chwaer yn derbyn triniaeth Dwynwen hapus iawn!



arbenning ar Ynys Y Barri ac yn mwyhnau mynd ar y Beth vdv eich diddordebau?

Dwi wrth fy modd ag unrhyw math o chwaraeon. Fel mae'n digwydd fyddai allan mewn kayak fory oherwydd mae môr yn fy amgylchynu fi yma yn Qatar. Dwi'n licio chwarae golff a sgio. Dwi yn hoff iawn o fy mwyd ac wrth fy modd yn mynd allan i fwyta. Beth yw eich uchelgais am y ddeng mlynedd nesa?

Dwi ishe bod mor iach ag y gallai er mwyn i fi allu mwynhau amser gyda fy merch. Dwi'n lwcus ac wedi teithio yn eang felly dwi'n hapus yn byw mewn lle hyfryd fel Qatar. Mae fy merch yn Llundain a dwi'n ffeindio hi'n anodd bod mor bell oddi wrthi felly bob tro dwi'n cal gwylie dwi eisie treulio amser gyda Jodie. Gyda pwy fasech chi'n hoffi cael pryd o fwyd?

Yn syml, fy merch Jodie. Efallai mai dim ond 6 yw Jodie ond mae hi gymaint o hwyl. Gyda hi dwi hapusa. Oherwydd fy swydd yn y cyfryngau dwi wedi bod yn lwcus i rannu bwrdd gyda nifer o enwogion mawr y

Dim ond wythnos diwetha fues i'n mwynhau noson yda Ernie Els o fyd golf – dyn dwi wedi ei edmygu ers blynyddoedd.

ydych chi'n eu hedmygu? Mam a dad yn fwy na neb

Beth yw eich gwyliau delfrydol?
Mae lle gennyf yn Sbaen. Dwi wrth fy modd yno.
Neu Trefdraeth yn Sir Benfro.
Lle yw eich hoff dafarn neu fwyty yn y Fro?

Heb os dwi'n licio mynd i El Puerto's ym Mhenarth. Ma Tanny y perchennog, sef mab y diweddar Martinez, yn fachan sbesial ac yn edrych ar ôl ei gwsmeriaid yn arbennig ac ma'r bwyd yn syml ond o safon uchel.

DWYNWEN -O-GRAM!

LLONGYFARCHI ADAU mawr Miranda Emmerson Barri, enillydd ein cvstadleuaeth Dwynwen-o-Gram eleni, gyda diolch hefyd i'w gŵr Chris am ei henwebu.

Gobeithio y cafoch chi



CYMRODORION Y BARRI 17/02/15: Byddwn yn dathlu gŵyl Sain Ffolant gydag ambell ddarn a chân gogleisiol a hwyliog 7.15pm yn Festri Tabernacl, Y Barri. 27/02/15: Cinio Gŵyl Ddewi Nghlwb Golff y Wenfô; rhoswend@hotmail.co.uk/eirypalfrey@ Noson Gymdeithasol Y Fro – bob nos Lun yng Nghanolfan Palmerston, Y Barri. 6.30pm – 8.30pm

CYMRODORION Y BARRI

ADRAN ADDYSG GYDOL OES CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

BRO MORGANNWG
Bob nos Lun 6.30-ppm yng
Nghanolfan Palmerston.
Dosbarthiadau wythnosol gan
gynnwys Gwnïo, Dosbarth Canu,
Creffiau, Coffi, Sgwrs a Gemau Bwrdd.
Amser Stori – bob dydd Gwener yng
Ngholeg Cymunedol y Bontfaen,
9.30am-11am.
23/02/15: Clwb Llyfrau – "Noson yr
Heliwr" gan Lyn Ebenezer, 7-8pm yng
Nghanolfan Palmerston.
27/02/15: Darlith a Chinio. Castell

27/02/15: Darlith a Chinio, Castell Gwersi a gweithgareddau cyfrwng Sain Ffagan yn yr Ail Ryfel Byd (gan Cymraeg i bob safon; £20 y diwrnod Dr Sioned Williams), 12.15pm-2pm wiseg3@cardiff.ac.uk/029 20874710.

CALENDR yng Ngholeg Cymunedol y Bontfaen,

gwirionedd ceir yr hanesion gorau...ydy'r gobaith! Felly, os ydych chi'n gwybod tarddiad enw gwreiddiol eich pentref, rhowch wybod: cysylltwch ar

nos Lun yng Nghanolfan Palmerston Y Barri, 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Paned a sgwrs a chyfleoedd dysgu cyfrwng Cymraeg Clinig Iaith – bob dydd Mawrth yng

Nghanolfan Palmerston, Y Barri 12pm-1pm.

Clwb Brecwast gyda Nic ap Glyn bob bore dydd Gwener yn Nhafarn Y Bears Head, Penarth, 10am-11am. Bore Coffi i ddysgwyr Cymraeg

bob dydd Sadwrn yn Llyfrgell y Barri, 10am-12pm. 14/02/15 – Sadwrn Siarad yn yr Hen

Neuadd, Y Bontfaen, 10am-3pm Gwersi a gweithgareddau cyfrwng

DRAMA STUDENTS: **SUCCESS**



Verity-Belle, Sam and Siwan pictured with their LAMDA grade 8 certificates and gold medals.

Theatre Arts is level with distinction. celebrating success excellent results achieved by students recently entered London Academy of Music Art (LAMDA) exams.

Thirty students aged Stagecoach principal from six to 19 entered the Helene Reynolds globally exams in either 'speaking of berse and prose' or outstanding results, 'acting', and once again which reflect and reward the school maintains its the hard work, 100 per cent pass rate. Six-year-old N

an exam, and passed the 772727

STAGECOACH 'introductory stage 2

Siwan Wyn Henderson (19), Verity-Belle Atkinson (18) and Sam Walter (16) all took who the highest level Grade 8 'solo acting' exam. They have every reason to be and celebrating, as all three passed this gold medal grade with the highest mark of distinction.

recognised commented: "We are delighted by these outstanding results ns its the hard work ite. enthusiasm and talent of Mia our students and tutors."

Randles was the For more information, youngest student to take call Helene on 01446

Sixth former learns about life as an MEP



Jill Evans MEP and Bronwen Lloyd at the European Parliament.

SINCE 1999, Plaid been spending the week Cymru MEP Jill in Jill Evan's office in Evans has welcomed Brussels experiencing a many young people from Wales to the parliament in Brussels, and the Bronwen latest is Lloyd, a sixth form student at Ysgol Gyfun Bro

Morgannwg.

Jill Evans said: "It's important to give young people from Wales the opportunity to see how the European Parliament works and how Wales

young people have been able to gain an insight into working in the EU that these important discussions were happening in several

Bronwen Lloyd has extraordinary."

including committee meetings, meetings with constituents and interest groups, as well as helping out with general duties in Jill's office.

Bronwen Llovd said "This was my first trip to Brussels, and even that was an experience in itself, but the parliamen for me was definitely the main attraction.

"Since I'm bilingual the translating booths in can play its part.

"This helps to raise the profile of Wales in Europe, and scores of the translating booths in every committee room were extremely interesting, and to think these improvements." these that important languages,



New beginners' Pilates course

introductory course for beginners starts on February 26 at 11am in St Nicholas Hall, Barry.

It runs alongside six existing classes in Barry and two in Cowbridge.

Classes are small and friendly and are taught by qualified Pilates teacher, Sharon Sylvester.

Pilates exercises the whole body, using a range of mat-based

exercises, combining use of the deep postural and stability muscles with movements of the arms and legs, breathing, suppleness and postural awareness.
Pilates is based on

eight basic principles concentration, breathing, centering, control, precision, flowing movements, integrated isolation, and routine.

To book your place contact Sharon on 07830 085606, first meeting of the new year or see www.barrypilates.co.uk

Barry Pilates Classes

Mondays 9.15am, 10.30am & 5.30pm Thursdays 10am & 11am Fridays 6pm & 7.15pm

New Beginners Course

Start Thursday 26th February 11am

To Book or for more information

Sharon 07830 085606

www.barrypilates.co.uk

Free advice clinic on making a Will

OPKINS LAW have -introduced an innovative 'free advice clinic' on Tuesdays for advice on probate, Wills, powers of attorney and trust matters.

The clinics are open to everyone and appointments aren't always necessary, so it's a great opportunity to ask any niggling questions that have been

bothering you.

The insurance company RIAS recently reported that over 8 million over-50s haven't vet made a Will whether for fear of tempting Fate, or fear of the legal process

The specialist solicitors at Hopkins Law will make your Will in plain English, and help you ensure that everything you hold dear is left to your loved ones in the future.

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manage to get good quality sleep for between 6/8 hours each night?

Good quality sleep is vital to our health and well-being. Poor sleep or insomnia affects many areas of our life, often leading to poor concentration; feeling short-tempered, lacking in energy and motivation, and inability to cope with life.

Inability to sleep can become an obsession, thus exacerbating the problem.

Short periods of

sleeplessness can affect us all; however, if it continues serious health and social problems can result.

Tackling sleep difficulties at the earliest opportunity helps to stop them becoming overwhelming.

Hypnotherapy can effectively reduce the difficulties that can lead to sleep disorders and work towards restoring good sleep patterns.

For more information, contact Sue Pitman at Cardiff Hypnotherapy Solutions, on 07795964066; www.cardiffhypnotherap

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Clinical Hypnotherapist/ Psychotherapist

Contact Sue on 07795 964066 / 029 20654893 Confidential free initial consultation

with no obligation at:
Barefoot Studio, Llandow nr Cowbridge.
The Business Centre, Barry.
Wellfield Osteopathic Clinic, Cardiff. www.cardiffhypnotherapysolutions.com

Scouts and Guides uniforms available at The Pencil Case

Rainbow, Brownie, Guide, Beaver, Cub or Scout, you can now buy their uniform at The Pencil Case in Cowbridge.

The new range has been extremely well received by local parents, who are delighted that they no longer have to go into Cardiff, or order online and risk buying the wrong size.

All prices have been matched to John Lewis and with free on-street parking right outside, it is easy for busy families to pop in and try the uniform on for size before buying.

The Pencil Case is

open from 9am – 5pm, Tuesday to Saturday. Contact Sally on 01446 772210,or sally@thepencilcase.co. The **pencil** case

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In Business Update

Introducing Atlantic Secure Self-Storage.

NTRODUCING Atlantic Secure Self-Storage, Barry – the Vale's premier self-storage company.

Trading out of Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry, offering both external container storage in brand new watertight units, and the latest internal storage units ranging from 25 to 200 sq ft (you've all seen Storage Wars). Storage to suit with flexible terms

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HE Hearing Centre is a purposelydesigned practice that offers state of the art testing, fitting and aftercare services.

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We are an independent practice, which enables us to recommend the best hearing aid for our

ients' particular needs.
All of our customers receive a personal, yet professional service that ensures everything, from the first test to the aftercare, is handled to the highest of standards.

So if you need a hearing test, or just advice on the best products for you, get in touch with us at 1 Station Approach, Penarth, CF64 3EE; 02920 707760, or www.scottwroe hearingcentre.co.uk

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We are open seven days a week and we will endeavour to meet all your storage needs. As an added bonus, we can offer you a tailored pick-up and drop-off service and receive deliveries for you

and easy access with a lift servicing the upper floor. to ensure the best use of your precious time - no more hanging around waiting for other people to turn up.

We also supply file boxes, shelving and packaging materials. Browse our website for further details www.atlanticsecureselfstorage.co.uk.

We are located at Atlantic House, Unit 8, Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry, CF63 3RF; email info@atlanticselfstorage.co.uk; or telephone 01446

Buying or selling your property? **Contact Newbold Solicitors**

street legal firm has a conveyancing department and their fees vary quite dramatically.
Some solicitors offer you low

fees to attract your attention. However, the more files they have for low fees, the less attention they may be able to give

Also, when you look at their disbursements there are hidden charges, such as acting for your mortgage lender. Make sure you look at the disbursements and costs against other firms that may appear more expensive.

Subsequently, it can sometimes be daunting to choose the right one for you. Estate Agents may recommend their panel solicitor. What does this mean?

Well, it may mean that on top of the solicitor's usual fee there may be an introducer fee paid and

solicitor's standard rate; you should check this

You may be happy to pay this because the solicitor and the estate agent or mortgage broker may have a good working relationship, or you may decide that you do not want to pay it.
Some lenders offer a 'factory

type' conveyancing service far away from where you are based. It is not then possible to get to know your solicitor and call in for any queries that may come

along.
So what should you do to find yourself a solicitor? When you ask what their legal

fees are, ask for a breakdown of their disbursements and get reassurances that you will only be paying the disbursements that they advise you about over the telephone;

Make sure you can call into the extension 1).

office if you have any queries or concerns. Choose local;

Contact solicitors direct for a quote, or call Alex and Tori.

Both are solicitors based in Barry. They head up a talented team of conveyancing assistants Their fees are probably the

lowest you will find from a high street firm, transparent, with no hidden charges. With the conveyancing mark for quality you can be reassured of the standard of service.

They are part of one of Wales' busiest conveyancing practices; who came second in the UK's Best Law Firm award

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Fun Foundations' new accreditations

NUN FOUNDATIONS day nursery celebrated the new year with a succession of new accreditations...

It has been rated as a 5 by the Vale of Glamorgan Food Standards Agency. This is the top rating and means that the nursery has excellent hygiene

It has received its Vale of Glamorgan Healthy and Sustainable Pre School Scheme second year assessment, which focussed on environment and mental and emotional health and well being.

The report stated that the nursery shows a very positive approach to mental and emotional health and well being, built on a commonsense approach

Fun Foundations has also been working with the small health workplace award, which is the new national mark of quality for health and well-being in the workplace. The nursery has been awarded the bronze for this and is now working towards the

The whole team at Fun Foundations are always active in their management of continuous development strategies, resulting in improving their practice for children, staff and parents.

To arrange a visit please call the team on 01446 771117 or take a look at the website at www.funfoundationsdaynursery.co.uk.



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NHS contract

NCE again, attacks are being mounted by Tories against our publicly-owned Welsh NHS, in order to distract attention from their stealthy and profit-oriented privatisation of the English NHS.

So perhaps readers who haven't followed the news closely, might like to note that the national media has reported that in the English NHS, a private health company was awarded an £80million contract – even though an NHS consortium bid was £7million lower.

Marc Delaney,

Beating Bowel Cancer campaign

VERYONE at Beating Bowel Cancer would like to thank all those in your local area who took part in our Decembeard fundraising campaign last month.

We are delighted to announce that we have reached our target of £250,000, which will help us to support people with bowel cancer and their families and to raise awareness of the disease, its symptoms and the need for early diagnosis.

The aim of the annual campaign, which asks men to ditch their razors and grow a beard throughout December, is to break down the stigma of talking about bowel cancer, which is the UK's second biggest cancer killer.

Over 100 people are diagnosed with bowel cancer every day, yet over 90 per cent of cases can be treated successfully if caught early.

So it's vital that people become more aware of the symptoms so they can act quickly.

Decembeard is a fun way for individuals or teams to raise funds and help to increase awareness of the disease

It's easy to do and thousands signed up for it this year. We would like to thank every one of them for their support.

If anyone has any

If anyone has any queries or concerns about bowel cancer, there's lots of information and advice on our website, or they can call our Nurse Helpline on 020 8973

Mark Flannagan, CEO, Beating Bowel Cancer

www.beatingbowelcance

Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71
7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS
AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We will (in certain circumstances)protect a writer's identity, if requested.

'ROAD CLOSURE COULD RESULT IN FATALITIES'

OUR readers will be aware that the road from Ewenny to St Brides Major is to be closed for five months for a railway bridge to be replaced.

The result will be that all traffic from Wick, St Brides and beyond into and from Bridgend will have to take the coast road through Southerndown and

Ogmore by Sea.

In the 32 years that I have lived in Ogmore, the road into Bridgend has been closed on many occasions, often on the bend where the road goes off to Norton and Heol y Mynndd.

There is clearly a likelihood of more accidents and closures as a result of the increased traffic.

There has been no consideration

whatsoever of the effect on the access for emergency vehicles should the road through Ogmore be closed.

Perhaps the Vale Council, who agreed to this road closure, could advise (but doubt if they and into Bridgend, should the route out of Ogmore be closed, and the expected time for arrival of an ambulance or fire engine.

will) on the route from

Having checked the alternative routes, it

would appear to be at best 40-45 minutes, which could well lead to statilities amongst our elderly village population. (Dr) David Hawkridge, Ogmore by Sea.

'IS THIS EXTRA HOUSING IN THE VALE NECESSARY?'

N recent months, there has been an energetic debate in The GEM about housing locations in the Vale, whether more housing should be built in rural locations, in or around existing towns, or even whole new towns.

However, these debates have ignored the first question – is this housing necessary?

housing necessary?
The Vale of Glamorgan Local
Development Plan that proposes these
developments – and which I and other
Plaid Cymru councillors have
consistently voted against in council –
demands 9,900 new dwellings in the
Vale.

But Welsh Government housing

N recent months, there has been an energetic debate in been an energetic debate in year, say we only need 5,600.

Taking into account small scale housing and major developments like the Waterfront in Barry, the Vale Council has already given enough planning permission to meet our actual housing need until past 2026.

We should ask ourselves who is benefiting from this overdevelopment?

If those who want to merge Cardiff with the Vale get their way, we will be in a very different position again. After all, where will Cardiff

After all, where will Cardiff Council want to build their houses other than on Vale greenfield sites? Coun Ian Johnson, Plaid candidate for the Vale of Glamorgan, Barry.

A FIREMAN'S TALE OF STEAM DAYS

ACK in 1952, King George VI had passed away and in Swindon's Locomotive Works, management were in turmoil, as the engine they needed for the funeral, 4082 Windson Castle was under heavy repair.

A donor engine, 7013 Bristol Castle, exchanged names and numbers and became the new Windsor Castle 4083.

The deception was kept to the end of steam when both were scrapped.

Moving forward to 1962, as a fireman in Cardiff Canton 1953/1965, steam power was in decline, diesels were taking over the main line duties of the

once proud Castle class

So it was in that year that the driver and myself were waiting at Canton relief sidings to work a coal train to Bristol.

It arrived, at the head the once proud 4082 Windsor Castle, now deprived of its name and number which was chalked on the cab side, the copper and brass now faded, the green paint cracked and rusty.

Steam seemed to leak from every orifice. Reduced to running on slow lines, we arrived in Bristol five hours later.

We left the engine at Bristol Bath Road loco shed, a rough riding, poor steaming, but once pristine royal locomotive. Tony Nicholas.

Mixed message?

R JOHN SENTAMU, the Archbishop of York is no doubt a very thoughtful and intelligent churchman, but his recent lambasting of "our obsession with money, houses and luxury, leading to misery, not happiness," seems somewhat misplaced.

Whilst decrying these qualities, he is pictured in his robes in front of a magnificent house – Bishopthorpe Palace – near York, which has been the home of Archbishops of York for more than 750 years!

Christopher Short, Barry.





FRENCH APPRENTICES' FLYING VISIT



Visiting French students at ICAT.

A GROUP of 43 French aeronautical engineering students came to **Cardiff and Vale** College to brush up on their English skills and get a taste of the UK aeroplane industry.

The students, aged between 16 and 25, from a college in Cruseilles, France, were also taken on visits to British Airways Maintenance Cardiff (BAMC) and GE's advance engine technology facility in Nantgarw, as well as trips to Cardiff for a taste of Welsh hospitality and culture

Appeal for pledges to secure part of Barry's heritage



AN attempt is being 1910 she passed on to the made to fundraise to ensure artefacts home town.

Rather than wait until is discussed fully, edges only pledges only requested for are an pledges important part of the sent to the Brighton town's maritime history. The bid could be lost if Revenswood. delayed too long.

pledges kgmaritime.research@go oglemail.com.
The paddle steamer

Barry Railway Company in its venture at the time a realistic price are: two to capture a share of the large solid brass Bristol Channel windows; one brass helm Bristol excursion trade.

the Barry company from steamer operations in

Passenger Boats Ltd.

Requisitioned from the town's world War One, she was stationed in Greece, PS Barry are based in Salonika and returned to her took part in the Gallipoli

renamed Waverley and

She became I hope to secure a Snaefell in World War successful bid for Barry Two and attended and I'm appealing to the people of the town to help by sending their to. Glen Gower Took I have to the secure of th to: Glen Gower.

She was sunk in a bombing raid off The paddle steamer Sunderland on July 5, Barry was built for the 1941.

coursion trade. with damaged wheel; a On the withdrawal of lamp, copper and glass.

JT Greenway.





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Kids Aloud choir puts out call for talent THE Wales Wales.

Millennium Centre (WMC) is looking for promises to once again

Aloud charity are appealing for Wales's young performers to apply.
Children aged from

encouraged to audition,

encouraged to audition, and applications can be made online.

Graeme Farrow of WMC said: "With performances at the performances at the best and aged between 9 and 13 (must performances at the best and aged between 9 and 13 (must performances at the performance at the performance at the backgrounds

"The 2015 chorus

(WMC) is looking for promises to once again young singers to join offer life-changing the Only Kids Aloud experiences for the country's top young choristers and I want to Following the success of the 2012 and 2014 only Kids Aloud choirs, WMC and the Only To apply, visit

www.wmc.org.uk/OKA and fill in the application young performers to apply.

Children aged from singing a section of a nine to 13 years old from all over Wales are submitted.

The deadline for applications is February 9. Applicants must be seen as a second secon

unique opportunities for early February to inform children from all them about the next all them across round of live auditions.

Phone Colin on 07973524858 or Kevin on 07989358966 Visit our website @ www.newwaysolarenergy.com



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YOUR CHANCE SHARE THE COMMUNITY

Gardening Club LALESTON Gardening club invites the public to listen to a talk by Sheena Crossley on annuals, biennials, and bedding plants on February 9 at 7.30pm in the 'Cliff Cottage'. High Street.

The club has a thriving ladies' section which meets on the first and third Tuesdays in the month at the same venue at 7.30pm, new members welcome.

WI meeting PENYFAI WI president Jean Griffiths read out birthday greetings to several members

The hall was set out with tables and six chairs and on each table there were quizzes. which kept members engrossed while the treasurer collected annual subscriptions

Then Angela Smith read out the answers to all the quiz questions and announced that, instead of hiring coaches and having the problem of reserving a venue for the annual dinner, the WI would be holding it in the school

The raffle was won by Beryl Duggan. The next meeting will be in Pen-y-fai Primary School hall on February 16 at 7pm. The speaker will be Pat Johnson on 'The secrets of my garden shed'.

Hall revamp THE committee in charge of running Cefn Cribwr Community Centre has been enterprising over the last 12 months in ensuring that it has full disabled access and toilet facilities. The Green Hut has been renovated, with new lighting and sound systems and the stage has been equipped with new fireproof,

colourful curtains. To showcase the venue there will be an evening of entertainment on Wednesday, March 25, with a donation to the Welsh Air Ambulance charity.
Further information

and tickets are available from Diana Dimond 01656 856614, or Martin Goudge (01656 740026); e-mail igoudge@sky.com.

Maesteg concert THE League of Friends of Maesteg Hospital is organising a concert to celebrate the centenary of the opening of the hospital at the town hall or Friday, March 27, at 7.15pm.

Music will be provided by the RAF St Athan Voluntary Band and choral singing by Noteworthy mixed choir, conducted by Rvan Wood with Rhian Jenkins accompanist. The compère will be BBC presenter
Beverley Humphreys and there is a guest soprano, Charlotte Ellett.

Tickets £7 from Lynda on 01656 735988

Choir recruits MAESTEG Gleemen male voice choir is seeking new members.

The choir rehearses on Monday and Thursday evenings in the Royal British Legion Club. Commercial Street, Maesteg from 7pm – 8.30pm

School report TYNYRHEOL Primary School headteacher Kerry Jones has thanked teaching students Miss Adams and Mr Atkinson for their hard work and wished them well for the future – they sadly left the school last Friday.

The school's value for the week was

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include

every newsworthy subject.
Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL 1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ TEL: 01656 725399

email: tvnvcoed1@vahoo.co.uk

'sportsmanship' and certificates have been presented to those who displayed this value consistently.

This week's winners are: Class 1 - Zach Thomas, for playing 'catch' and sharing his ball: Class 2 – Dylan Sage, for taking turns and following the rules in ball skills; Class 3 – Zack Steele, for accepting a decision his group made when writing news reports.

New repertoire OGMORE Vale Male Voice Choir is busy rehearsing a new repertoire for a St David's Day concert on Sunday, March 1, to express thanks to

lady supporters.
Titled 'Cawl a Chan members of the audience are provided with a bowl of cawl, Welsh cakes and bara

volunteers prepare The choir rehearses in its Canolfan

Bethlehem Centre, the teachers. Commercial Street, Ogmore Vale on Thursday evenings and mornings for an welcomes visitors and new members.

For further information, telephone John on 01656 841429. **Get-together**

TONDU Primary School will be holding a session on Wednesdays from 9.45am to 11.45am in the Heol Persondy building, Aberkenfig.
The session is titled

'Tondu Toddlers' and pupils will learn how to socialise with peers. while parents relax.

Susan would welcome parents to come along to the school on Monday mornings for an informal group meeting from 10.30 to 11.30am, it is very much

appreciated as the welcome resources for

Parents are invited to the school on Monday informal group meeting, 10.30am – 11.30am.

There is also an invitation to Mr Thomas's Llynfi class assembly tomorrow (Friday) at 10.20am.

Ruby concert I HAD the pleasure of attending Côr Meibion Maesteg a'r Cylch (Maesteg and District male) choir's ruby anniversary, 40th year concert at Maesteg at a packed town hall last Humphreys introduced the choir under its musical director Rhian Jenkins with accompanist Ryan Wood. The choir included

presenter Beverley

two Welsh favourites, 'Llef' and 'Gwahoddiad'. This was followed by soprano and tenor duo Angharad Morgan and David Fortey, who formed 'Cantare'

Their style was relaxed and their voices blended perfectly in everything from musical theatre to opera. Their finishing ece, 'Anfonaf Angel', was one of the best versions I have heard of this lovely song.

Then, a young trumpeter from Maesteg, Harvey Rees, accompanied the choir in two pieces – 'Where shall I be' and 'Tell my Father', from the civil war.

There was a solo by with an arrangement of 'Bui Doi' from the

show Miss Saigon and the choir then sang 'Let It Be Me', arranged and conducted by Dr Haydn James who has conducted the singing at over 100 rugby matches at the Millennium Stadium.

There was an outstanding piano duet by Ryan Wood and Rhian Jenkins playing the theme tune from the film 633 Squadron.

There was a standing ovation for the choir's finale, 'Finlandia'.

Then everyone joined in singing the Welsh National Anthem, 'Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau

Top choir and band perform BETHLEHEM Life Centre, Cefn Cribwr offers an opportunity to listen to the international choir of the year: Bridgend Male Choir, under musical director Rhiannon Williams-Hale and the Parc and Dare Band from Treorchy. Tickets are £5. Proceeds go to Prostate Cancer

Cymru.

Bridgend AM visits the Ty Orwr Salvation Army homeless shelter

ON Friday (January 30) the local Assembly Member, Carwyn Jones, visited the Salvation Army Lifehouse, Ty Ogwr in Bridgend to meet service users and see how vulnerable people in his constituency are benefiting from the work of the

Organisations

(BAVO) has opened

its social enterprise

organisations that have

ambitions to develop into

small

scheme.

supports

economic

guarantee

community

organisations

Salvation Army.

Ty Ogwr opened in August 2013 and provides emergency housing and support services to help people break the cycle of homelessness

The project has been developed in partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) and Hafod Care Association, with an emphasis on resident engagement and person centred approach.

Grant advice

for social

enterprises

BRIDGEND and mutuals provided all

Association of profits generated are V o l u n t a r y redistributed into the

Council, the scheme enterprises. The grant is

Funded by Bridgend community

voluntary

companies, co-operatives www.bavo.org.uk

sustainable

community.

grants communities through the

development

Borough activity and social

The

The purpose of the

programme is to build sustainable and vibrant

aimed at supporting and developing sustainability

The nine members of staff at the centre provide a homely, safe environment for residents aged 18 and over, and help them access services relating to independent living, including a 24-hour emergency on-call support response. There are currently 16 flats which provide temporary accommodation to homeless people across

Commenting on his visit, the First Minister said: "I was pleased to see the great work being done to support vulnerable adults acros Bridgend county borough at Ty Ogwr. The centre is a lifeline where people can address issues around their homelessness and make positive decisions about their future.

Bridgend.

"Ty Ogwr is a great example of collaboration by the Welsh Government, local government and the third sector to deliver much-needed support to homeless in my own constituency."

Due to the success of

within the third sector. Ty Ogwr on its first deadline year between August 2013 and August 2014, applications is Friday, February 27 at 12 noon. the Salvation Army is voluntary sector and February 27 at 12 noon c o m m u n i t y For an application form hoping to open a organisations, charities, or for further details, call social enterprises, BAVO on 01656 810400 community house as move-on based or visit the social interest enterprise pages of accommodation from Tŷ Ogwr, with support from BCBC.

Burglary in Treoes: police issue an Efit

POLICE in Bridgend have released an Efit image of a man they would like to speak to, following a burglary in Treoes.

"At around 10.30am on Friday, January 9, two men were seen trying to gain access to a



house in Glan-Y-Nant, Treoes," a spokeswoman said. The first suspect is described as white, aged 17-21, of slim build and about 6ft 3ins tall. He had a scar on his left cheek and was bald.

The second suspect is also described as white, about the same age, small to medium build, with collar length dark brown hair and slight facial hair.

Contact South Wales Police on 101 quoting reference number 1500009691. Alternatively Crimestoppers can be called free and anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Thumbs up for nursery report E privately- children having access to

Bright Beginnings which meet their learning situated in St David's Church in Nottage, Porthcawl, has been praised by the Bridgend AM Carwyn Jones, their following successful inspection.

The nursery throughout Porthcawl performance was graded and is improving year on good overall due to the year.

owned day nursery a variety of fun activities needs. Mr Jones said: "I am

delighted to hear that Bright Beginnings Nursery achieved the good overall rating in t Estyn It is a latest a Inspection. Estyn nursery which provides a great service to families throughout Porthcawl

BRIDGENI FIRM FINE FOR SAFETY

BRIDGEND engineering company has been prosecuted, after an employee's hand was crushed in an unguarded hydraulic press.

Bridgend Magistrates' Court heard on February 2 that Paul Dobbins, 45, from Porth. was using a hydraulic press at TB Davies (UK) Ltd to press bearings into a steel pivot block. On March 12, 2013,

Mr Dobbins was holding a bearing in place with his left hand and as he pushed the foot pedal to lower the press he turned to speak to a colleague next to him.

The press came down on his hand, injuring his thumb and pulling the skin from his index finger.
Mr Dobbins required

a skin graft on his finger and was unable to return to work for over six months.

He has lost movement and feeling in his left hand, leaving him unable to drive a car or take part in a number of

social activities.

Mr Dobbins has since lost his job and has suffered from emotional and financial stress.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that TB Davies (UK) Ltd failed to ensure that the work was carried out which can be enjoyed by spokesperson explained.

safely and did not have Davies sufficient guarding on the machine to protect employees against crushing injuries up to

the point of the incident. TB Davies (UK) Ltd, Waterton House, Brocastle Avenue, Bridgend, was fined £4,000 and ordered to pay costs of £1,200 after pleading guilty to a single breach of the Provision and Use of

Work Equipment
Regulations 1998.
Speaking after the
hearing, HSE Inspector Simon Breen said: "This incident could have been entirely prevented if TB

guarded the machinery as all employers have a duty to. As a result, Mr Dobbins has suffered a painful and avoidable injury.

"Any company using hydraulic presses must ensure that dangerous moving parts do not endanger their workers, or others, by putting adequate guarding in place".

Information on work equipment machinery can be found on the HSE website at www.hse.gov.uk/workequipment-machinery.

Woodland project drop-in session

Community woodland creation project session takes place nature fund, at 2pm - 3pm and 6pm – February 10 in the paths. GP Room, ground floor, Sports Centre.

Natural Resources Wales is working partnership with communities of Maesteg and Nantyffyllon to setting. develop the former "The drop-in sessions Coegnant Colliery and will give people the Maesteg Washery sites chance to find out more into a brand new about the project and of

A LLYNFI Valley people of all ages and abilities

The first phase of the drop-in the Welsh Government incorporate 7pm on broadleaf planting and

Later phases will include range Maesteg bespoke health trails, sculptures, ponds and a green gym, offering a place for people to relax, the exercise and socialise in tranquil woodland

woodland ways to get involved," a



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Golfing farmers survive the Arctic weather!

BLIZZARD conditions combined with strong winds, driving rain and brief neriods of sunshine were just a few of the ingredients experienced by the 29 members of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society when visiting Swansea Bay Golf Club last Thursday to compete for the Llanharan Concrete Trophy and quality prizes supplied by sponsor Mr Ĝino Cocco.

With the temperature hovering around freezing point playing conditions were extremely difficult and somewhat dangerous but thankfully everyone returned home safely despite some hair-raising

On two occasions 79-year-old Aubrey Thomas gave his playing partners Geraint Davies and Griff Morgan a perfect demonstration of how to ski down a slippery incline demolishing a few gorse bushes en

Thankfully for Aubrey the quick action of Geraint and Griff, with only limited experience of dealing with cuts and bruises in the equine market, resulted in just a small amount of blood being lost and more importantly for Aubrey, his famous zipless wallet remaining intact.

Not surpassingly many returned to the clubhouse

This was the second time in a week that Dai John had finished runner up in a major competition and the mind boggles at the thought of what this popular businessman from Cowbridge could achieve if only



As the temperature continued to drop below freezing point the lack of knowing how many fingers were still attached to the wrist became a problem particularly for Bryan Owen.

Bryan's approach shot to the 18th green will long be remembered for the distance his selected 7-iron travelled having left the palm of Bryan's frozen holes together with Neil McLean, Paul Dimbleby and Mertine Edwards.

and Martyn Edwards.
For the second month running John Caines hit the warm shower.

Credit however must be given to the overall winner John Caines, who scored 31 stableford points, and also to runner up Dai John, who scored 30 points.



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taylorwimpey.co.uk/southwales Sales centre open Thursday to Monday 10am - 5pm

Rapid rethink for Network Rail over St Bride's bridge closure

by PHILIP IRWIN

FURIOUS protests from businesses in and Bride's Major have prompted Network Rail into a rapid rethink of plans to close a bridge for five months while

repairs take place.

In a statement, a
Network Rai spokesperson said:
"Following concerns
raised by the local
community, MP and AM regarding our plans to replace St Brides road bridge, Ewenny, we are reviewing our work programme to investigate opportunities to reduce of compensation.
the overall time the Work was due



ABOVE: Jane Hutt and Coun Elmore discussed the issue with villagers over coffee.

said: passing trade.

Network Rail did not Jane Hutt called for appear to have minimum closures of the considered the question road and compensation with Network Rail, Mr

for businesses affected.

landlord of the Fox and Hounds, and Sam Smith, who runs the Mace short were horrificed at the prospects of surviving the months without of the Network Rail in the Vale, who said he area, and a very short would be liaising directly notice period. He said with the Vale Council to that the five month with the Vale Council to that the five month and closure as soon as emphasise the need for period of closure was support for local unacceptable to local businesses and services, such as the school.

Passing trade.

Last week, Vale AM

Neither disputed the Jane Hutt and Vale MP
necessity of the work, but the lack of consultation, and they took up their care worked that case immediately.

Last week, Vale AM

Alun Cairns called for the postponement of the project after meeting with Network Rail in Westminster, and the community in Ewenny

Cairns said that the local



ABOVE: Alun Cairns and members of the community were angry about the situation.

Iane Hutt said that little consultation voiced

of disruption with so pedestrian footway.

"Giving a community concerns about the just a few weeks' notice the travelling public, impact on St Brides of such a major residents, and businesses Major of the lorries infrastructure project is in the area by both needing to get to and completely unacceptable, reducing journey times from the quarries. om the quarries.

She also met Network Rail to review safety.

She also met Network Rail to review safety.

It their procedures and ill be pressing for working practices for closure a diversionary route will be clearly to ensure the safety.

Major village on all The Vale Council is signposted to ensure also involved in the project. Its operational contacted Wales and manager for highways, working to ensure that West Utilities, Arriva Michael Clogg, said: the diversion route Trains, building "The new bridge design provides the most contractor Balfour Beatty will not only ensure suitable alternative and and the Vale Council to future access along the convenient access to St request that the new bridge scheme timings be significant improvement construction phase and by eliminating the will be undertaking any assessed. by eliminating the He said: "I am so existing single-lane

significant advantages to ss' notice the travelling public, time for us, so this is major residents, and businesses really good news."

"This

will be pressing for working practices for closure a diversionary support for St. Brides future projects". route will be clearly Major village on all the Vale Council is signosted to ensure also involved in the disruption is kept to a working to ensure that compensation for loss of the diversion route business must be provides the most considered. I therefore Bride's during the that a positive we construction phase and forward can be found" the will be undertaking any necessary maintenance angry that the restriction over the and improvement works Rail will delay the communities in and railway and increasing its to the route prior to any closure. I expect the time around Ewenny and St load-carrying capacity closure of the bridge, as for this project to be Brides Major are facing enabling it to support two well as closely significantly reduced, such an enormous period lanes of traffic and a monitoring the route and have written to all well as closely monitoring the route during the construction

> Vale Council apologise feeling on the matter.
>
> for any inconvenience caused during these gives the community essential works and will time to make plans for do everything possible to the closure, and I will minimise disruption by continue to work with reducing the overall time Network Rail on a daily the bridge is closed."

will offer He said: "The Nations is a very busy

Jane Hutt "Businesses in St. Brides asked and improving highway Major rely on review safety. 'through trass and "During any road customers' and customers' and the disruption for the school

will also be significant.

" M i n i m i s i n g temporary closures will be vital and welcome this announcement and hope

Alun Cairns said: "I am pleased that Network for this project to be significantly reduced, and have written to all parties involved on behalf of residents to "Network Rail and the express the strength of

basis to minimise the the bridge is closed." basis to minimise the Mark Lewis of the Fox disruption for the and Hounds was very c o m m u n i t i e s pleased with the news. surrounding the bridge".

Pencoed Comprehensive in the zone for basketball!



WITH the help of BCBC's active young people's department and Disability Sport Wales, Pencoed game can also be played by electric wheelchair users as well become the first local as manual wheelchair users. school to try a new sport -Inclusive Zone Basketball.

British Wheelchair Basketball, a registered charity and governing for wheelchair basketball in the UK, is offering taster sessions to every secondary school in Wales so that pupils who are unable to participate in a full game of basketball can enjoy an alternative version of the sport.

A game of Inclusive Zone

bodied players also welcome to on the lookout for inclusive sports participate either using a so that students of all abilities can wheelchair or as runners.

Weterian uses and are always further information about Inclusive Zone Basketball, visit www.gbwba.ore.uk.

The professional Inclusive Zone Basketball wheelchairs are lightweight for sports use and angled for stability, although the game can also be played by

as manual wheelchair users.

Liam Davies, a pupil at
Pencoed who uses an electric
wheelchair, said: "It's great to be
able to play a sport that me and my
friends can take part in together. I
found the Inclusive Zone
Basketball taster session really
useful and it's definitely useful and it's definitely something I would be interested in playing more of in the future."

Pencoed Comprehensive School's head of physical A game of Inclusive Zone
Basketball requires only four
wheelchairs in comparison to ten
wheelchairs normally used in
wheelchair basketball, and also
session. The school has an includes team members that act as inclusive approach to sports and runners in the wing zones. At least physical activity. We have gym one person on a team will have equipment which is set up for lower limb impairment, with able wheelchair users and are always

Pencoed are now hoping to enter a team to compete in the Inclusive Zone Basketball Welsh finals that are taking place in Cardiff in March. Any secondary school in Wales can put a team forward for the competition, and the winning team will go through to the UK final that will be held later in the year in Worcestershire

Coun Huw David, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "Having a range of sports on offer in schools is important and enables young people of all abilities to participate in physical activity. We wish Pencoed Comprehensive all the in further developing Inclusive Zone Basketball at the school.'

To find out more about inclusive sports in Bridgend county borough call 01656 815220. For Inclusive Zone Basketball, visit

Coychurch rises to the challenge again for Jade

cerebral palsy an operation to help Jade sufferer Jade Owen with a cheque for wearing over 2 000 with a cheque for £179.45 towards fundraising for a success rate.

life-changing Jade draws confidence life-changing operation in America.

The money raised was from the Christmas raffle held in The White Horse.

Readers remember an article in The GEM a few weeks ago concerning Jade, who was born with Diplegic Cerebral Palsy, which means she cannot walk.

Much interest was generated from readers has been amazing. Jade would

operation. looking a It is hoped that, for Jade. following a consultation in April in the UK with

AT last Sunday Dr Park, Jade will travel night's quiz held at to St Louis, Missouri, The White Horse, Where Dr Park, from the Coych urch ender Sian excellence for this presented condition, will perform an ager presented condition, will perform an operation to held Idea.

operation over 2,000 times with a 100 per cent

from a young lad in Bridgend who has already had the operation and is now playing football with his friends.

The list of things to pay for includes two operations, airfares for Jade and her parents, a month's stay in the USA, post care physiotherapy in the UK and a post-operation follow-up trip to the USA after about

six months.

Jade and her family article and the response and friends have so far raised about £32,000.

amazing. Jade would If you wish to donate, like to thank everyone Google Jade and go to who has donated to help the Tree of Hope website, her get to St Louis for her the registered charity operation. If you wish to donate

LAMBS hear the tales of arsenal

30 local people was the arsenal HQ.

The factory employed over 30,000 people who came from all parts of came from the LAMBS local Clubb's history group: an anecdotes individual illustrated talk by Bridgend arsenal, a to life.

major Royal The arsenal was major Royal

A former teacher at published a book on the arsenal.

a highly informative and entertaining talk The recounting what was the largest war factory in Britain.

ALISON ALISON although the South Wales

ALISON Factory now remains stimulating evening.

AN audience of over Police building was once

January 27 for an Glamorgan every day by event organised by train and by bus. Mr Michael Clubb on brought the factory back

major Royal The arsenal was a factory filling factory that dealt with volatile and dangerous materials.

A former A former A former Province were explosions: some died, teacher at Brynteg others were terribly School, Mr Clubb has injured, but, as Mr Clubb said, for most employees the experience

the enthusiastically received, extraordinary story of and Jim Duffield thanked the speaker on behalf of the LAMBS group for



PICTURED (left to right): Andrew Donaghy, Mr V Gibson (English), Morgan Bennett, Mr G Lewis, Brynteg librarian, Owen Middleton, Anya Nunn, Ben Davis, Deegan-Lee Richards, Mayor of Bridgend and county borough councillor Gary Thomas and Mayor's consort, Ms Kay Jenkins.

Pupils' message of hope at Holocaust memorial service

A GROUP of year-7 unable to take part in the pupils from Brynteg reading at the Council Civic Chamber. Andrew recently in the Bennett stepped in at the Holoca ust last minute and did a Memorial Service sterling job. Well done to held at the Civic you all Offices in Bridgend.

The pupils created a very moving poem especially for the service. The poem is entitled 'Hope Shines in Every Star' and each pupil recited some of the lines at the memorial service.

Credit must also go some other pupils who are not in the photograph (above). Timothy McDonald, Kai James Timothy and Kiaya McDonald were initially selected as part of the original group heavily were involved in the creation poem but ely were unfortunately

Hope Shines in Every Star

They were once able to play and pray freely. families contented with life,

Suddenly, terrifyingly they became the ones to blame... for everything.

Frantic and humiliated, they were hoarded onto overcrowded trains,

Kith and kin torn apart, oblivious to the oncoming pain, a rapid introduction to terror Many, in desperation, tried to run and hide -

and why not? Because the soldier had orders - shoot to kill on sight.

Friends stacked friends' bodies on an ever growing pile as they wiped away tears. Survivors clung to each other in resolute

hope and comradeship which saw them through the darkest days

Years of suffering until ... whispered rumours they dared not helieve Suddenly, distant

engines rumbling coming ever closer, a forgotten sweet taste in the air.

Despondent uniforms everywhere - relief replacing misery, Disbelieving

prisoners, starved and beaten no longer, arms raised now in an

outpouring of joy. Many long decades drift by, fear and nightmares slowly fade, Replaced by security.

friendships, togetherness Pride in the ones we

lost, Light replaces darkness - hope shines in every star.

Year-7 were shocked by details of Holocaust

"IT made us feel sad we looked through the books which helped us to create our poem. were

shocked by the pictures

and information in them Once we had created the poem, it was time to go to the council chamber.

"When we arrived it quite daunting was because the architecture of the building was very posh. All the people we met were very important. but very nice and friendly. We were really nervous when we went up to speak but we felt all performed excellently.

"After finishing the recital we were relieved and we were all deeply moved by the Memorial service

Welcome to new farmers meeting

GLAMORGAN branch of the Farmers' Union of Wales is holding an open meeting meeting. focused on opportunities for new entrants and succession planning Monday, on Monday, looking at the future of February 16, in the their farms who don't Prince of Wales Inn, necessarily want to on Prince of Wales Inn, Kenfig CF33 Bridgend, 4PR, at 7.30pm.

Glamorgan county executive officer, Rachel Saunders said: "We are looking forward to hosting farm liaison officers Jane Walters and Steve Meredith, and agriadvisor solicitor Dr Nerys Llewelyn Jones as our speakers for the evening. At the end of last year the annual FUW autumn conference put

spotlight ion, which succession, which is often a taboo subject for farming families, and we are now following up the theme by holding this open meeting."

"The range of

opportunities which will be available to young people under the basic payment scheme and rural development plan can be very confusing and I hope this meeting will help to explain the available options.

I also hope that our the more 'mature' members. whose sons and daughters are farming. will also attend the

"There are plenty of young enthusiastic people who wish to enter the industry and we also know that there are those Hill relinquish everything.

"I also hope that we can shed further light on some of the myths and preconceptions about joint venture farming and help those who have not yet planned their future and who may be interested in more information on the options available them," she concluded.

Contact the FUW Glamorgan office on 01446 774838 for more

SPONSORS SOUGHT

Community will be holding their annual charity golf day on June 19, at the Grove Golf Club, Porthcawl seeking are sponsors.

ror details contact family and her many friends shone through or email her at kpcyouth@hotmer.' at least 100 friends shone through friends shone through the short kpcyouth@hotmail.com. love of jewellery!).

Bridgend Youth Theatre group

Exciting times for

young actors in

AFTER last year's production into of The Phantom of the Opera, Bridgend Youth Theatre, run by BAFTA award winning director Roger Burnell, are back this year with a production of Jekyll

also been called to audition for an exciting new Hollywood feature, soon to be filmed in Wales with local cast

Book tickets via the Grand Pavilion and Hyde The Musical.

With a new take on an incredible story, and stunning music featuring — 7.30pm; Thursday, February 19 — songs such as 'This Is The Moment' Matinee 2pm, evening 7.30pm; and 'Confrontation', there is plenty friday, February 20 — Matinee 2pm, for the young cast to get their teeth evening 7.30pm.

'Dancing queen' Jill was warm, loving and compassionate

by BETTY ALDEN

JILL died on New Year's Day, and we at the Cowbridge Monday Club will miss her very, very much.

Born in Porth y Green, Llanblethian, she had been part of Cowbridge and Llanblethian for all of her 51 years.

She was one of the founder members of the club, which was set up in the mid 1970s for those with learning disabilities

Jill rarely missed one of our monthly Monday evening meetings, and joined in whatever activity was going on with great enthusiasm.

Dancing was a great favourite with her – as she became less mobile, her hands took over in time to the music.

She just about always had a smile on her face, and a warm greeting for all. She was loving and

compassionate with hose in distress, and cheekily teasing with those who liked a joke.

She loved to act on the club's behalf thanking those who entertained us, or to make an announcement. speaking with confidence, spirit and sincerity

Her love for her at (rivalled partially by her Jillian Harris – a tribute



Jill Harris (seated) with friend Wendy Carter, on a Monday Club outing in 2009.

A few years ago, she settled happily in Quarry Cottage, across from the Edmondes Arms, where she could live with some independence, wonderfully cared for by the staff, yet maintain close contact with her family and her beloved town.

Her 50th birthday party in The Bear was a iovous event – I don't think her dancing shoes were still all evening. We extend our

sympathy to Jill's mother, Elsie, and to all her family, and we are extremely grateful for their generosity in passing on to the Monday Club the collection from the

Read your **GEM** online - visit bridgendtoday.co.uk

MND victims' right to communicate

LAST week was hectic for local MP Madeleine Moon as she prepared for the launch of a report of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Neurone Disease Motor

The report was launched in the Speaker's state apartments with guests suffering from MND, their carers and members of local branches of the

Mrs Moon has invited three people from the south and west Wales branch of the MND association: Sheila Jordan, Lesley Frost and Justin Hostettler-Davies from Broadlands who has raised close to £30,000 for MND in the past two years.

past two years.

The report reached a number of conclusions following over 300 submissions of evidence from those with the disease, carers, MNDA braches and speech and language therapists.

The disease has a devastating effect

on sufferers and their families.

Thirty per cent of people diagnosed with MND will die within 12 months; up to 95 per cent will lose their voice. This means they will be unable to communicate basic needs, hold

communication aids have become readily available. For those who retain the use of their hands, iPads can be invaluable

"If, as happens to many as the disease progresses, hand movement is lost then an eye glaze system is possible where an electronic voice articulates words chosen by looking a

a computer screen and blinking. "In England there is a statutory right to communication equipment which is not available in the three devolved administrations

From south Wales, concerns were From south Wales, concerns were expressed about the long waiting lists from Rookwood hospital in Cardiff From people in north Wales there were complaints of the long journey time to

Liverpool for assessments.

Madeleine said: "Across the UK delays have meant that people have been assessed then waited six months for equipment only to find their condition has deteriorated and a new

assessment is needed.
"The most shocking finding was that some providers limited the iPads to access to speech support apps and had rendered them incapable of other uses. A mean-spirited way of stopping emails, music, films being

Mrs Moon was called in PMOs and asked the Prime Minister to meet with the MND Association to find a way forward so that people did not die without their last wishes being known. A meeting has been promised with

This means and communicate basic needs, hold conversations, describe how they feel, without their last wishes being shown.

A meeting has been promised with the Minister for Health and letters have gone to all of the ministers in the devolved administrations, asking for the ministers in the should be placed. devolved administrations, asking for communication support to be placed on a statutory footing. Further information on the report can be found at www.mndassociation.org/

YOUTH and

PENCOED **RUGBY ROUND-UP**

Top of the table encounter sees first team fall short

Pencoed Maesteg did not disappoint, the result in doubt until the final whistle.

Following the early feeling out process, visitors' full back Ed Howley opened the match scoring

with a penalty goal.

Pencoed soon hit back, as a half break from scrum half Kyle Barrett, and supportive driving play from impressive home No8 Gareth Prentice took play into the visitors' 22, and combined passing gave full back Tom Cross the chance to squeeze in at the corner

The home lead was short lived however, Howley slotting his second penalty. Both sides missed opportunities before Howley extended his team's lead to 9-5 with his third penalty goal

Pencoed opened the second half on the offensive and after from youth outside half and sustained pressure Adam Williams captain Jac Picton, who added reduced the deficit with a penalty

Eventually however with Players involved did well and players prop forward Christian Powell did exceptionally well to Pencoed Phoenix and Bargoed drive through several defenders to corre and but his cide ahead for motteh had everything, with

Williams adding the extras.

At 15-9 and with the visitors picking up a yellow card, the home support understandably could have been thinking their team would close the match out.

Unfortunately for the first time in a league match this season this was not to be the case, with the Old Parish showing they were not ready to lie down, and with their forwards rising to the task the match was turned on its head in a couple of disastrous minutes for the home side.

Driving play from the Maesteg forwards set up the positions for two late tries from Scott Hicks and Howley, the full back adding two well judged conversions from

Marc Davies kept home hopes match, wing Glen Hiscocks follow up tackle. unfortunately having to check on Phoenix were

THIS top of the table clash at the Recreation Ground between Pencoed and cover defence, has it had done a Leanne Burnell in the outside centre position chipped ahead for between Pencoed and the second half, thwarted what had right wing Seward. appeared scoring opportunities.

In this closely fought affair, a great advertisement for Division 2 rugby, none did better for Pencoed than Prentice and Powell, with Howley making a match-winning 18 point contribution for the Old

PENCOED 2ND XV 31 MAESTEG CELTIC 2ND XV 21

This highly entertaining Mid Glamorgan & District League match played on what is affectionately referred to as the Cabbage Patch provided the opportunity for the home side to include a number of their eligible youth players; unfortunately the youth match having to be called off because of pitch availability at their Woodlands site!

to 9-5 with his third penalty goal and that's how the scoreline remained at the halftime whistle.

Penced opened the second balf superb solo effort, and two tries three conversions.

goal.

Pencoed were now beginning to create chances, but to their credit the Maesteg cover defence was equal to the task.

Eventually however with Pencoed going through multiple looked comfortable at this level.

score and put his side ahead for match had everything, with the first time in the match, neither side taking a backward step in a sometimes fiery encounter.

The visitors were to dominate the opening quarter through their chunkily built pack, Phoenix tight head Michele Halse commenting in a brief respite that the opposition pack was one of the strongest, if not the strongest, pack they had ever met, the Phoenix pack rarely under such pressure at

the set scrummage.
The visitors dominated ossession and territory during this period, encamped in the Phoenix 22 and only a superb committed defensive effort from the home side kept their line intact, Hannah Seward and her w Kathryn Stonehouse among others 27-0

making vital last ditch tackles.

Slowly but surely the home alive with a fine penalty to reduce pack was beginning to get to grips the Maesteg lead to 18-23 going with the opposition at the set into the final minutes, and to their piece, and scrum half Amy credit Pencoed almost levelled Stevens gave her side hard earned with virtually the last move of the relief with a fine clearance and

The pace of the former Cardiff City Ladies footballer did the rest to open the scoring. Phoenix returned to the attack and a Stevens kick and chase took play to the shadow of the visitors' posts where sustained driving play and recycling of possession saw prop forward Lowri Francis drive over and Phoenix led 10-0 at the

With the game starting to open up Phoenix now looked more threatening, left wing Stephanie Edmunds held up just short of the line following a determined run.

A barnstorming 20 metre run from the versatile Becca Pope, now pushed up from No8 to prop, took Phoenix deep into the visitors' 22 and it was the home

side's turn to enjoy the red zone.

Phoenix, with their scrum platform now far more stable, provided No 9 Stevens with the opportunity to break down the blindside and crash her way over wide out to stretch the home lead.

Phoenix second row Charlotte Mundy then did well to steal the visitors' lineout throw, and driving play from Lowri Reeves and Pope, who was enjoying arguably her best carrying game, took the game back at the visitors.

Phoenix then scored the try of

the match, the slightly built Kathryn Criger turning over possession in midfield before swift handling put Burnell in possession on the left hand touchline, and blistering pace saw her leave the desperate Bargoed cover in her 50 metre wake, the player also adding the extras.

player also adding the extras.

To their credit Bargoed were still contesting everything, but could not get the score their efforts deserved against a mean Phoenix defence, Mundy showing her kicking ability with a good 30 metre touch finder from deep within her 22. within her 22.

Phoenix replacement prop PJ quickly won a turnover, and her incisive angles of running made

for an impressive late cameo.

Home skipper Reeves had the final say, capitalising on good driving play by her pack to force her way over wide out. Final score

The Phoenix camp can reflect on a superb defensive commitment throughout, commitment throughout, particularly when under pressure in the opening quarter; this eventually provided the base for their victory, the final scoreline elief with a fine clearance and their victory, the final section however not reflecting the Phoenix were now starting to considerable Bargoed challenge.



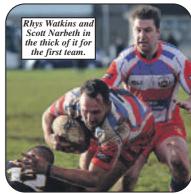


ABOVE: Tom Cross heads for the try line for the first team, while ABOVE RIGHT: Christian Powell also got on the scoresheet for the first team. ALL PICTURES ON THIS PAGE BY JULIE HANCOCK



Pencoed Phoenix were dominant in their win over Bargoed - Kathryn Criger (above) was







Action from the seconds as ABOVE: Jac Picton notched twice. BELOW: There was no let up in what was an



The coaches chose 10 players to play against Cowbridge, they were Brandon, Braydan, Rhys, Marcus, Thomas L, Lewys, Carwyn, Corey, Dylan and Owen.

The match was 10 minutes a half and the boys played outstandingly in the first half with some excellent tackling and offloading of the ball; the defence was outstanding.

Carwyn was on fire scoring three tries and at halftime Llantwit were winning 3-0. The second half saw the boys again show Cowbridge that they meant business with some excellent defending as well as

again some fantastic tries scored.

The final score was Llantwit 7, Cowbridge 3, tries in this half scored by Corey, Marcus, Brandon and

Players were changed for the next match which replaced with Kristian, Kian, Tom J and Tom H. This creating space for LI was again against Cowbridge; other team players for half was very close - when Llantwit scored Bridgend tries. However their scratch and they finish Kristian, Owen, Carwyn, Dylan, Marcus and

At halftime Owen, Carwyn, Braydan, Dylan and Marcus were replaced with Lewys, Rhys, Corey, Thomas L and Brandon.

The second half saw the boys try very hard to defend and tackle but Cowbridge won this match with the final score Cowbridge 7, Llantwit 3; tries in the second half scored by Lewys and Brandon.

The last match was against Bridgend Sports and ne players for the first half were Brandon, Braydan, Rhys, Marcus, Dafydd, Lewys, Carwyn, Corey, Dylan and Owen.

The boys were fantastic; they were offloading the ball, great in defence as well as some excellent tries scored, and at halftime the score was Llantwit 2, Bridgend Sports Club 2, both tries scored by

At halftime Rhys, Corey, Lewys and Owen were

tackles and some great decisions were made to

The final score was Llantwit 4, Bridgend Sports Club 5, tries in the second half scored by Dafydd and

Llantwit Major under-7s travelled to Bridgend on Sunday to face Bridgend Sports and Nantymoel Valley Ravens at Newbridge Fields.

Llantwit began the first game of the day against Bridgend Sports with both sides showing good skills

and scoring some great tries.

Llantwit managed to string a number of pass together which was good to see and finished off some good runs with close support play to score.

some good runs with close support play to score.

In the end Llantwit were pipped at the post, losing
7 tries to 6, and also lost Aaron Moce to an eye
injury - get well soon!

Llantwit's second game was against Nantymoel
Valley Ravens which turned out to be another close
and skillful game. With quick passing from the tag
creating space for Llantwit they ran in some fine
tries. However their tageting was not quite up to tries. However their tagging was not quite up to scratch and they finished the game losing by a single





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(RHAN YN UNIG) **GORCHYMYN CAU LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS YN BARHAOL 2015**

Gwnaethpwyd y Gorchymyn uchod ar 19 Ionawr 2015. Effaith y Gorchymyn fydd cau'r llwybr troed cyhoeddus sy'n arwain o GGC 307050 166100 i'r de o'r rheilffordd yn Y Rhws hyd at GGC 307054 166009 ac yn agor ar Drem Echni, fel y'i dangosir ar fap y Gorchymyn, yn barhaol.

Bydd copïau o'r Gorchymyn a map y Gorchymyn ar gael i'w hastudio'n rhad ac am ddim yn ystod yr wythnos, yn Swyddfa'r Doc, Heol yr Isffordd, Y Barri CF63 4RU rhwng 9.00am a 4.00pm. Bydd copïau o'r Gorchymyn a'r map ar werth yn y fan honno am £4.50 yr un.

Cewch wneud sylwadau ar y Gorchymyn neu'i wrthwynebu drwy anfon neu ddod â llythyr i'r cyngor. Dylech ei gyfeirio at Gyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Datblygu Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfa'r Dociau, Heol yr Isffordd, Y Barri, CF63 4RT a sicrhau ei fod yn ein cyrraedd erbyn 5 Mawrth 2015. Dylech hefyd nodi eich holl resymau dros ymateb.

Os na ddaw unrhyw sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau i law yn y modd priodol, neu os caiff unrhyw rai a wnaethpwyd eisoes tynnu'n ôl, bydd hawl i Gyngor Bro Morgannwg gadarnhau'r Gorchymyn ei hun fel Gorchymyn diwrthwynebiad. Os anfonir y Gorchymyn at Weinidogion Cymru ar gyfer ei gadarnhau bydd unrhyw sylwadau neu wrthwynebiadau nas tynnwyd ôl, yn cael eu hanfon gyda'r Gorchymyn.

Dyddiedig 5 Chwefror 2015

VALE of GLAMORGA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990, SECTION 257 AND

PARAGRAPH 1 OF SCHEDULE 14 THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 2 PORTHKERRY (PART)

PUBLIC PATH STOPPING UP **ORDER 2015**

The above Order was made on the 19th day of January 2015. The effect of the Order will be to stop up the public footpath running from NGR 307050 166100 south of the rail line in Rhoose to NGR 307054 166009 where it exits on to Trem Echni, as shown on the Order map.

A copy of the Order and the Order map may be seen free of charge at the Dock Office, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT from 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. on any weekday Copies of the Order and map may be bought there at

Any representation about or objection to the Order, may be sent or delivered in writing addressed to the Director of Development Services, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Subway Road, Barry, CF63 4RT not later than the 5th day of March 2015. Please state the grounds on which it is made

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, The Vale of Glamorgan Council may itself confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Welsh Ministers for confirmation, any representations or objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order

Dated this 5th day of February 2015

Articles For Sale ADVERTISE HERE £12 inc. VAT - box for 2 weeks. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to The Glamorgan GEM' at The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowhridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. Sorry no refunds are given.

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FAMILY NOTICES

McLEAN Richard

Heartfelt thanks to everyone for all the love, support, cards, flowers and meals after the recent sad loss of Richard. Also thank you to all who attended his funeral.

Thanks to Reverend Huw Butler, Reverend Phil Hibbert and John James, Fonmon, for the 'spot on' service. There is a huge amount of human kindness and compassion amongst the people of Llantwit Major. Deo gratis.

Jim & Tricia McLean, April & family.

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JOHN

Elsie Irene

Elsie, of St Athan, died peacefully at Milsom House Nursing Home on January 27th. Devoted wife of the late Llyn, loving mother to Sue and the late Jayne, mother-in-law to John, grandmother to Kristian and great-grandmother to Alex.

You will be remembered fondly by us all, but you and Dad are together again.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday February 9, service and cremation 11.30am at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to The Alzheimers Disease Society c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

WATTS

Portia Rosina

Suddenly on January 27 at her home in Barry, Portia, beloved daughter of the late Arthur and Cunice Watts of Rhoose, dearly loved sister of David and Gillian, loving aunt of Vicky, Sophie and Myfanwy.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday February 10, service and cremation 12 noon at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Kidney Research, c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

RUPUCIS

Grace (née Tetley)

Peacefully on 25th January in Barry Hospital, Grace aged 82 years, beloved wife of the late Robert, dear mother to Andrew.

Greatly loved and missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A G Adams & Son, Gladstone Road, Barry until the service in the funeral home chapel on Friday 13th February at 10.30am, afterwards to Trealaw Cemetery. Family flowers only please, if wished donations may be sent in Grace's memory to the Alzheimer's Society c/o 16 Columbus Walk, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff CF10 4BY.

Tabert

Bryan

Denise and family would

like to thank everyone for the

gifts, messages and lovely cards at this

sad time.

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In Memory of William Job Northway (Bill)

4th February 1933 to 4th February 2014.

Passed away one year ago on February 4. Not just today but every day, we all remember you with love and affection.

Love you forever - Eunice, Jane, Tosh, Esther, Mike, Caroline, Tiernan, all the grandchildren and great grandson. xxxxx

In Memory

BILL NORTHWAY

My darling husband and loving dad. Passed away on 4 February 2014. One year ago, I miss you more than ever, My thoughts are of you every day, Till we meet again all my love, Eunice.

LEER

res V

Joyce and family would like to express their thanks for all the support, kind messages of sympathy and attendance at the funeral following the sad loss of Alf.

Our sincere thanks to Reverend Susan Moll for officiating at the service and Thomas Brothers Funeral Directors.

A special thanks also to Tony for the touching eulogy.

STANTON

Patricia



One year today. Missed by all your family and your loving husband Tony, you will always be remembered Goodnight babes xx

PREW

Clifford (Charlie)

Died on January 31st in Llandough Hospital aged 89 years. Beloved husband of Marion. Much loved father to Sharon, Tina, Jackie and step daughter Linda. Proud granddad and great granddad.

Funeral service to take place at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry on Monday, 9th February at 10.15am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Prostate Cancer Support Unit, UHW.

FARLEY

Patricia Ann

Peacefully on January 30 at Holme Tower, Penarth, Tricia of Rhoose, dearly loved sister of Avril and brother-in-law of Alex.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday February 13, service 11.45am at St. Marys Church, Penmark, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Barry at 1pm, no mourning attire. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Marie Curie Cancer Care c/o Mrs C James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

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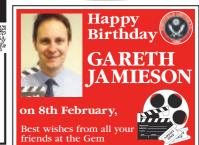
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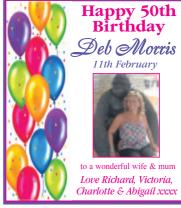
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⊕ ⊕ABTA

Barry Amateur Swimming Club holds its AGM and presentation evening



Saturday, January 31, the Amateur Swimming Club held its AGM and presentation evening in the C a d o x t o n Conservative Club upstairs room.
The chairman, Mrs

Heulwen Cooper, welcomed life members, parents and swimmers to the Barry Swimming Club's 89th AGM and the report for the year

Apologies had been received from several members including Mrs Sheila Owens, who with her husband Ray had been with the Barry Swimming Club for over 40 years. over 40 Unfortunately September Ray died and our club will greatly miss his care and

Ray had been an essential member of the club, and following the death of Mr Ray Sutton, our very long standing chief coach some years ago, Ray Owens had been responsible for securing the continuation of the club for many years. He had also been the club president for several

The minutes of our AGM last year were accepted with the addition of Mrs Jenny Wilcox whose presence

had been omitted. It was reported that the club had competed in the National Arena Swimming League once more and our final result placed us third from bottom in Division 2 of the league.

We were very happy to be in this position as our membership has declined greatly over the recent years. We have very few male members currently, which greatly affect our chances of gaining points at galas.

Many of our boys had to swim up several age groups which was very tiring apart from the disadvantage that the other swimmers were bigger and faster in the other lanes. We also

thanked our volunteer masters swimmers once again for being willing to help us again.

This Buckle found that he could no longer commit time to continue as a club coach. Paul had been a stalwart member for some time despite his children having left the club many years previously. We were very

fortunate that Jonathan Davies and Roger Welch stepped in and were doing a great job with our junior and new swimmers. However we need more volunteers to offer to help with the 7pm hour on Monday. Some of our older swimmers, Ryan Connor

and Jack Parry, have been helping in this hour and are doing some

excellent work.

We will soon be swimming the Postal Long Distance Swim for girls with the boys swimming it the following week. The following week. The Postal Swim requires swimmers to swim as many lengths of the pool as possible in one hour and each age group will be competing with other club swimmers from all parts of the UK.

We've had a few first

places at this event and several medals in recent years. Then, on July 4, most of our swimmers will be competing in the Cardiff Bay Meet. This competition has been running for 26 years and is organised by our club at the Cardiff Pool. Last year this Gala made a profit of over £4,000 for

our club. Swim Wales have recently issued a new club constitution which all member clubs have to accept and adopt. This had been placed on to the club's Facebook page so that all parents had an opportunity to read it. The acceptance of the new constitution
was proposed and
seconded and it was
therefore now
operational for the club.

The treasurer issued copies of the annual report for 2014 and this showed that the club was in a far better financial position than had been the case 12 months ago. Club captains had

been chosen by the coaches: club captains, girls - captain Georgia Looker, vice captain Ffion Goodland; boys captain Ryan Connor, vice captain Jack Parry. Both Georgia and Ffion will be going to university in September and we asked Bethan Williams to take the captain's post from September

The meeting moved on to the presentation of trophies trophies won by swimmers at the annual championship galas in November. The club November. The club possesses in the region of 50 trophies which are presented annually to championship

SPECIAL TROPHIES

Mike Looker, our very hard-working coach, presented the trophies to the winners.

Following the c h a m p i o n s h i p presentations some special trophies were awarded.

Best runner up is

awarded to a boy and a girl who have competed our annual championships but who haven't actually won a cup in any of the five championship events.

Each swimmer is awarded points for the place he or she comes in each event, six for first place, five for second. etc, and the boy and girl who have not won any events but have the highest total of points over all events.

This year the winners of these cups were girls -in second place Daisy Thomas but the winner was Ffion Goodland; boys – second was Aaron Belby, the winner was Tomos Pugh.

Best newcomer is awarded to the girl and boy swimmer who had joined the club within the past year and who may have been a good or maybe not so good a swimmer upon joining, but who had worked hard to reach a very good standard in his/her age group since joining the club.



Several new members had joined the club during the year but they were girls and we had almost no new boys so for this year we decided to withdraw the boys'

cup in this category.

However, one of the girls stands out for her determination and her enormous improvement in a relatively short time – Connie Millar.

The best novice swimmer is awarded to the girl and boy swimmer who are fairly young and have only been a member of the club for a couple of

He/she was probably not a very good swimmer when he/she joined the club, but has worked extremely hard since joining and has his/her technique swimming swimming technique and ability greatly. Several youngsters were considered, however two young members were deemed as the best novice swimmers for 2014 – Isabelle Thomas and Henry Davies.

improved Most swimmer goes to a swimmer who has been a member of the club for quite some time but whose competitive ability and performance had improved significantly during the

past year. Several members had made a great deal of improvement during the year, but eventually it was agreed that the two was agreed that the two who had improved most spectacularly were Nia Fuller, shared with Pia Sully, and Taylor Albertides.

We had a trophy which was presented to a member who has shown a great deal of effort and loyalty; however two members stand out as winners of thE cup this year – Jack Parry and Ryan Connor.

Club member of the year is awarded every year to one male and one female adult member for their work during their time at the club.

Many people had been considered for working on behalf of the club, however Caroline Smart had done so much to help this year - she

Mike out with the she na team Mike out with the coaching, she had helped with team selection for galas and most of all she was now producing our very colourful and informative newsletter. so she was a deserving

winner. We've also several men who have worked very hard this year. We've had a hard time due to several of our experienced members

leaving. As we know Mike As we know Mike Looker has been a brick once more and has almost singlehandedly supported all our training sessions and we are most grateful to him for his very, very hard work and dependability. He is already a life member of the club and

a very important one.

Many others have given us a lot of their time to help in many ways - however two gentlemen have helped greatly taking on the training of our junior swimmers. They've worked very hard and will be prepared to step up to help in the later

session eventually.

We were so grateful to both Roger and Jonathan for all the hard, dependable work they've put in this year – we couldn't pick one of them so we presented them with the cup to share this year and thanked both for all the work.

Some others had put in some exceptional time and effort during the year - Elaine Romain had taken on a whole load of extra work for the club over the past year, despite her year, despite her daughter Amy having left the club.

Elaine had been a

very hardworking member of the club for many years, but for the past year she had taken on far more of the responsibilities than she should have done. For her loyalty, Elaine was given life membership of the club.

Another person who had worked under the

stayed with us, attending most Sunday morning sessions still and trialling new members when necessary.

Martin was fixture

secretary for many years previously. We were previously. We were most grateful to him for his help on Sundays and we also awarded Martin life membership of the club.

thanked all for attending the meeting and moved on to the disco, where a great night was had by all.





Sully bowlers aim for the top!

SULLY bowls teams are finals aiming for their strongest The finish to a season for a number years with the Championship side having the top of the league table if they to see. beat Newport this Saturday at Newport, starting from 2pm.

The Sully seniors have qualified for the national play-offs by winning their put their names forward to strengthen division, losing just one game in the process, and now travel to Pontardawe

Good luck to Sully seniors for next Good luck to Sully seniors for next on Tuesday, February 10, to play *Tuesday!* Selway from west Wales in the quarter-

The Sully club have progressed positively over the past few years with club members showing increased interest in playing for both sides, and with new members improving with opportunity to finish near the experience the potential is there for all

There are still opportunities for members who have shown over the year that they are good enough to now

PG10 IN A RECORD- $BREAKING\ SEASON$

breaking season with thousands of junior players participating in football activities and over a hundred children progress to join professional football clubs.

The FAW fun football accredited football provider which has a development centre in the Vale, provides coaching and sport opportunities for children progress to join professional football clubs.

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The FAW fun football provider which has a development centre in the Vale, provides coaching soch education, child sport and sport opportunities for some professional football but also to Barcelona FC and this year will visit footballers but more importantly better people.

Led and mentored by Neville Southall, a petegriff10@hotmail.co.

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PG10 Coaching is grassroots clubs who protection and First Aid celebrating a record voluntary provide local qualifications.

breaking season with opportunities for children To aid player

To aid development,

Bridge results

VALE of Glamorgan bridge club results **for February 2:**1st Barrie Waite & Graham Norris 61.26%, 2nd

nau worked under the lyears old.

Huge praise has been given to the team of His children left the club coaches at PG10 and also

His Harries.

Ist Barrie Waite & Graham Norris 61.26%, 2nd Liam Sheridan & John Beard 60.86%, 3rd Alan Grant & Margaret Price 60.16%.

I.E.

RUBBLE BURSTS

night on Monday.

Three of our teams were all playing on the same night. Usually this would not present a problem as there are more than enough players to be able to select three competitive

However there were a number of players unavailable for all the teams. This meant that players who would normally expect to play for a lower ranked team found themselves drafted into a higher division. We did manage to fill all our teams with no defaults – unfortunately that was as good as it

The Bosons travelled to Caerphilly in a division one clash with the Kings. Both sides on paper were evenly matched, but the game is not played on paper and we returned home with our tails firmly between our legs, with only Lee Davis and the reliable Dave Parsons earning draws to leave us with a 4-1 defeat.

The Bosons are now a half point behind our second team, the Barry Camelots, and a whole five points behind the Cardiff Castles.

In division 3 the Quarks entertained the bettom team the Nelse

bottom team, the Nelson Griffins. On four of the five boards the players were evenly matched. However, on board three

LLANCARFAN'S

Evan Williams was

in good form at the

recent Taunton

landed an 84-1

meeting where he

Dave Mahoney, while giving away a 104 rating advantage, was our only winner on the night.

Chris Green on board one managed a good draw to earn us 1.5 points from a possible 5 With Bridgend

beating Rhondda, the Quarks drop to second while the Griffins move off the bottom.
In division four the

Gambits, with an inexperienced team travelled to one of the promotion favourites, Bridgend Central Mallards. Like the Bosons we returned having lost 4-1; our '1' came from a first ever victory for Nick Mavroyenneas on time as his opponent failed to play 30 moves in his alloted 60 minutes. This was an excellent performance in only his

second league game.
The Barry Chess Club
meets at 7.30pm each
Monday at the West End
Club. St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6OY.

The club is open to players of all standards; whether you are interested in playing competitive chess or just the occasional friendly games.

New players are very welcome to just turn up on the night. For more details visit

won by eight lengths from Chesll Beach Boy

carried top weight,

and Copper Birch, who

scored by seven lengths from *Mission Complete*.

TIGER RAG

our website at barrychessclub yolasite.com.

Phil Jones

Barry & District ladies skittles league results

commencing January 19:

First division: Allsorts (S Tierney 30) 283, Barry Stars (T Johnstone 29) 278; Coppers (L Tiley 35) 332, SV Gals (J Richards 33) 327; Colcot Ladies (P Johnson 30) 269, Castaways (J Tobin 28) 249; Red Admiral (K McCarthy 24) 253, Pila Palas (S Bennett 26) 238; Space Finders (D Cleaver 37) 351, Family Affair (J Walden, S Vincent 32) 318; Cigar Ladies (E Simmans 30) 293, Family and Friends (N Provis 31) 303; Special Angels (L Mountford 26) 208, Bakers Dozen (S Martin, M Lewis 28) 292.

Second division: Strikers (L Gould 27) 240, Divas (W Draisey 27) 227; Roller Coasters (J Marriott 26) 222, Witchill Widows (S Hurn 28) 266; Vixens (M Marks 30) 271, After Eights (E Tombs 28) 270; Bobby's Girls (J Barnett 28) 243, S V Lights (P Forrester 26) 262; Castle Bandits (E Evans 29) 264, Witchill Weebies (N 189, Boozy Birds (S Rudeforth 33) Harrhy, S Edwards 25) 227; Cad Con 213. Starlights (A White, K Bryan 23) 223; 158, Liberals (F Williams 33) 129.

week Clickies (C Walters 32) 292. Breakaways (V Martin, Dawkins 30)

Third division: Rhoose Ravers (J Bishop 26) 251, Westenders (J Jeynes, C Gee 25) 242; Jolly Dollies (C Thomas 24) 212, Airways Angels (E Lewis 25) 227; Rugby Triers (S Butler 28) 233, Hill Billies (G Moorcroft 25) 229; S V Ladies (K Lacny 29) 280, Dolly Mixtures (L Marsh 35) 285; Lil's Devils (D Harrhy 25) 219, Persuaders (K Phillips 26) 243; Etcetera (C Mackintosh 28) 274, Friends and Neighbours (B Nicholls 30) 272; Witchill Wanderers (V Kerslake 35) 270, Merry Makers (M Payne 30) 360. Fourth division: Twilights (C Sims

21) 177, Rebels (K Burman, S Oram 22) 208; Challenger (B Griffiths 31) 220, BFFs (C Rees 28) 225; Wyndham Witches (W Williams, Y Curnow 25) 224, Fallen Angels (D Richards 26) 226; Railway Rogues (J Hawkins 26)

Cowbridge darts league round-up

ON Tuesday January 27, there Hounds (54), Farmer's Arms (46), matches.

The Highwayman Inn defeated the Old Post Ladies 7-2, the Edmondes C lost 2-7 to the Edmondes A. In this match Mark Dowling (Edmondes C) hit a 3-dart 180. The other two games Edmondes B won 8-1 against the Farmers Arms and the Hare and Hounds lost 1-8 to Llanharry.

Highwayman Inn (62), Hare and

was a full programme of league Edmondes C (45) and Old Post Ladies (25).

On Tuesday, February 10, the first round matches in the men's doubles will be played. The venues for these games are the Edmondes Arms and Llanharry Working Men's Club.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome. For further information e-mail Paul Present league standings after 13 cowbridgedarts@gmail.com; up-to-matches, are: Llanharry (96 points), date information can be found on the Edmondes B (72), Edmondes A (66), website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

Cowbridge under-16s overpower Barry RFC

under-16s reached new heights with cheir performance against Barry last week, which overwhelmed their performs the result of the performance the result of the performance the

In a match where orwards and backs forwards combined to produce a game of fast and furious running and tackling, Barry simply were

unable to compete.

The first try came within the first few minutes when quick ball from the scrum and crisp handling through the backs resulted in wing Seán Davies scoring in the corner.

Further tries by Ellis Simon and Max Cunnington and two conversions by outside half Bev Howells saw Cowbridge end the first half leading 19-0.

The second half began with a fight back by the visitors but excellent tackling from Osian John, Sam Palmer and Will Cousins prevented Barry from crossing the

control, led by captain James Holder and ably assisted by Harry Hopkins, Otto Guwy and

Josh Evans.

With flanker Duncan
Ace winning turnover after turnover it came as players, who not only no surprise when Kyle allowed the under-16s to no surprise when Kyle May-Rees Cowbridge's fifth try.

with an interception try which was converted.

The final try was a

COWBRIDGE line. After weathering the truly superb effort. Seán

opponents by six reach the line before the line to second row being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who, superbooking to with a place band of the line to second row being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who, superbooking to with a place band of the line to second row being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who also should be superbooking to with a place band of the line to second row being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who also should be superbooking to the line to second row being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who also should be superbooking to the line being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who also should be superbooking to the line being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who also should be superbooking to the line being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who also should be superbooking to the line being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who also should be superbooking to the line being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who also should be superbooking to the line being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who also should be superbooking to the line being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who also should be superbooking to the line being tackled but a Harrison Stevens, who also should be superbooking to the line being tackled but a Harrison Stevens who also should be superbooking to the line being tackled but a Harrison Stevens who also should be superbooking to the line being tackled but a superbooking tackled but superb offload to with a clever hand off, Cameron Roy resulted in dived over for a brilliant a try under the posts. try. Bev Howells
The Cowbridge pack converted two of three were now completely in tries of the half to complete an outstanding win and gain revenge for the narrow defeat inflicted on them by

> scored fulfill the fixture, but contributed victory: However, Barry never outstanding victory: gave up trying to stem Angus James, James the flow of attacks and Guard, Bev Howells, were finally rewarded Max Cunnington, with an interception try Cameron Roy and Ellis Simon

WE welcome your news, reports and other items of interest - email us at: gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

Wolves shake off rustiness with win

AFTER what seemed months without a game, Dinas Wolves under-12s were the faster out of the blocks on Saturday morning against Cowbridge Reds.

Two well-taken goals from B Harewood gave Dinas an early lead. The home side gave their opponents very little time to settle and played a very direct

C Hewitson and C Saunders added two more before the break to walk in with a comfortable four goal cushion.

J Lewis, R Mallum and T Williams looked as solid as ever playing out from the back, while Z Fifield I Doughty, K Quest and J Pereira worked tirelessly in the midfield.

The second half saw Cowbridge tighten up and it took a while for Dinas to add to their tally. T Williams was unlucky to miss from the spot, sending his attempt wide. C O'Brien put in a

cracking free kick which the Dinas strikers managed to hit the upright with. Frost pushed into the screening role which allowed Dinas to drive on more and goals soon came from a rasping shot from Hewitson and a third to complete his

hat-trick from Harewood.

Dinas peppered the Cowbridge goal throughout the second half but were matched by strong defending. J Moss and Mallum made sure D Morris had little to do.

K Booker ran his full back into the ground and was replaced by O'Brien.

In the final kick of the match, Cowbridge were awarded a penalty but Morris comfortably saved it. Man of the match was awarded to B Harewood.

Final score Dinas Powys 6, Cowbridge 0. LS

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double with 16-1 Tiger Rag, a six-yearchance Tornado In old chestnut gelding Milan and 4-1 shot owned and trained by Jonathan Tudor at Copper Birch. Merthyr Mawr, was a 4-1 winner of the The former, ridden by stable jockey Paul

Trainer Evan in a

Taunton Double

Moloney, won the Superman And War Elephant Challenge Handicap Hurdle and the latter, just over half-anhour or so later, took the Smokin' Aces Chase Handicap with 5lb claiming conditional jockey Conor Ring in

the saddle.

Of Tornado In Milan, Evan said: "He won well here last season and the form was good, but we put the hood on him and it turned him off completely. This was a sort of last chance saloon. We changed a lot of things. We were mystifed why he had lost his form, so we took the hood off him and we got rid of the ear plugs. He has a crossed noseband and we got rid of that and stuck a sheepskin noseband on him."

Tornado In Milan

Intermediate race at the Mid Devon Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Black Forest Lodge on Sunday.

Tiger Rag is usually

ridden by James Tudor but on this occasion was partnered by Bradley Gibbs, who rides out for Aberthin National Hunt trainer Tim Vaughan James Tudor was in action at the South Dorset Hunt Point-To-

Point at Milborne St Andrew where he won the Bonham's Men's Open Race on the Alan Hill trained Harbour Court. In a field of 12 runners, Harbour Court was made an odds-on

favourite and Ogmore's Nick Williams took third

place on Raffa.

BRIAN LEE



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Brian's (point-to-point) blast from the past - PART

ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee

HIS week, Brian Lee, who has been reporting on the Welsh hunt-racing scene for almost half a century, takes a look back at his press scrap books from the 1980s.

The first yellowing press cutting that appears in my scrapbook for 1981, is about Cowbridge's own

Dinas Powys ladies golf

On Tuesday, January
13, nine hole Stableford:
First, Louise Wilding
17pts; second, Mel King

All the ladies had an

RESULTS from Gosling 53 – 15.5 nett s Dinas Powys Golf 37.5. Club ladies' section:

On December 10, we held a pre Christmas nine hole Stableford: First, 16pts; third, Ann Blackburn, 18pts On Tuesday, January On Tuesday, January on back 6 from second
Pam Warne 18pts; third,
Andrew Herwood 16pts
20, nine hole medal Pam Warne 18pts; third, 20, nine hole medai: Audrey Harwood 16pts on back 6 from Lisa Ryley 16pts.

An Autumn Eclectic was held from October was held from October 16: First, Audrey Harwood 10 = 38; third, Ann Mahenthiralingam 46 – 6 14- December 16: First, 40 nett.

Maying Hird 38 gross – On Tuesday, January

14- December 16: First, and nett.

Maxine Hird 38 gross - 5.25 = 32.75 nett; second, Lisa Ryley 37 gross - 4.00 = 33.00nett; third, Annie Blackburn 39 gross - 5.75 = 33.25 6.5=30.5 nett; second, Susan Thomas, Frances On Tuesday, January Stuckey, Vera Hollyman 6, a nine hole medal: 42 - 7.41 = 34.59; third, First, Ann Mahenthiralingam 42 - 6 Christine Nelms, Sian = 36 nett on back 6 from second Vicki Ellison 54 - Mall the ladies had an

second Vicki Ellison 54 -Wilding 42 – 5.5 = 37.5 the winter sunshine.

On back 6 from Pat

All the tautes mad an enjoyable time playing in the winter sunshine.

RY

John Llewellyn, and under the heading 'Llewellyn Lands 20-1 Winner', reads "Proud Prince, ridden by Welsh champion jockey John Llewellyn, landed a division of the Heygate Gold Cup Open race in commanding style at the North Hereford Hunt Point-To-Point.

Proud Prince, a 20-1 outsider, scored by 10 lengths from the favourite Spartan Scot and Llewellyn was looking round for non existent dangers on the run-in.

Owner Gordon Lewis, a near neighbour of Llewellyn, said in the paddock after the race that he was "surprised at the result." Sadly, Gordon died a year or two ago.

Proud Prince went on to win the men's open at the Glamorgan at St Hilary that year and Llewellyn also won the members' race there on Majer Gerard. I recall that the horse should really have been named Major Gerard but owing to a typo, the horse ended up with that name! The heading for a press cutting dated April 13, 1981 reads: "Fitz has 25th Win In Style"; And this is what I had to say: "Rose Harry's 15-year-old Fitz chalked up his 25th point-to-point success when landing the adjacent event at the Glamorgan Hunt Steeplechases. *Fitz*, who has also won two hunter chases under Rules, finished 22 lengths clear of Ballydamus.

Fitz, who was owned and trained by the late Mrs Rose Harry at Dinas Powys, was a handsome chestnut gelding who was also ridden during his long and esteemed racing career by John Llewellyn and Mike Williams.

Under the heading 'Another Thomas Winner dated May 5, 1981, I reported: "Course inspector Jack Thomas saw his *Cottage Chest* land an easy win in the Barry Glazing Restricted Open race at the Pentyrch Hunt Steeplechases. Cottage Chest, the Pentyrch Hunt Steeplechases. Cottage Chest, who won by a distance from Dairibright, was ridden by Mr Thomas's grandson John Thomas of St Athan. Like his grandfather and father, Jim Thomas, 19-year-old John was the third generation for the Property of of the Thomas family to have ridden a winner at this meeting.

Jim's grandsons, Tom and Evan David of Llanharan, are now carrying on the great tradition

Moving on to May 25, 1981 and 'Rooney Lands Treble', I reported: "Tim Rooney of Bassaleg landed a treble at the Ystrad Hunt Steeplechases at Llantwit Major with Ernie The Milk, Crosstown and Just Mac. Rooney who is challenging for the National Point-To-Point Riders Championship has equalled the Welsh record of 15 wins in a season set by John Llewellyn last year. Now he is just two wins behind Ian McKie

Sadly, an injury was to put Tim on the sidelines and his chance of winning the title vanished.

On June 8, 1981, under the heading 'Rooney's Welsh Record', I wrote: "A round trip of 320 miles paid off for Barry farmer Ted Williams when his Crosstown landed the men's open race (Division 1) at the Exmoor Foxhounds Hunt Steeplechases.

"Crosstown, who was brilliantly ridden by Bassaleg farrier Tim Rooney beat Grand National runner Sandwillam by a length, despite making a mistake at the third last fence and losing a shoe.

"Crosstown, who was landing a five-timer, was made a 4/6 favourite and Mr Williams said: 'The journey took us five hours but it was all worth while for Crosstown's win has given Rooney a new Welsh record of 16 wins in a season.

There was another Welsh success at the meeting when Cardiff saddler John Ayres took the second division of the women's open with his former hurdler Maietta Crescent.

Ridden by Shan Morgan, Majetta Crescent running in a ladies' race for the first time was backed from 20-1 to 10-1.

Shan Morgan, who turned down a ride on *Moonello*, who finished fifth, said: "*Majetta* Crescent gave me a wonderful ride. He's some

You can e-mail your point-to-point memories/news to brianlee4@virginmedia.com or phone him on 02920736438.



Cottrell Park runnersup in golf awards

THE oldest golf by deputy minister for club in Wales has a new title - with Tenby leat off strong Tenby claiming the competition from award as the Golf Cottrell Park, Glynhir, award as the Golf Cottrell Park, Glynhir, Union of Wales Milford Haven and Pyle Club of the Year.

Tenby Golf Club tried, tried and tried again to become Golf Union of Wales Club of the Year – and their reward for bouncing back in a tough 12 months came at a glittering ceremony at Ryder Cup venue Celtic Manor, sponsored by golf club membership finance company Future PGA Financials and attended year.

and Kenfig.

Ryder Cup star Jamie

Donaldson was the Golf

Union of Wales touring professional of the year; north Wales' Evan Griffiths the amateur player of the year; Pwllheli's Grace Roberts the volunteer of the year; Gower's Nicola and Stroud the Development Wales PGA professional of the



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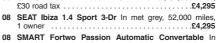
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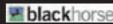


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Athletic fall short, but impress in Swansea loss

FOLLOWING an excellent win against third placed Cardiff Metropolitan, the Athletic visited second placed Swansea and came close to repeating the previous week's result, but had to settle for a losing bonus point in a narrow 20-15 defeat.

Swansea had first use of a blustery wind blowing straight up the St Helens field from the Mumbles end. They controlled the early play and took the lead with a straight forward penalty by full back Liam Popham.

The same player then crossed for the game's opening try following a flowing back move and added the conversion to give his side a 10-0

advantage. Swansea were looking to play a high tempo game and the Athletic did not help their cause with too many errors – dropped passes and conceding turnover ball Another Popham penalty increased the lead to 13-

The Athletic responded with a crunching tackle from centre Tom Morgan who picked up the dropped ball and ran strongly into the Swansea half

He passed inside to outside half Rob Evans who was held five metres short of the try line. The Athletic pack then took over and a series of probes at the try line finally resulted in hooker Simon Mustoe diving over wide out to bring the Athletic back into the game at 13-5.

The final play of the half proved the defining moment of the game. Swansea wing Andrew Claypole was tackled by Athletic wing Dan Howells as he dived

over the try line.
The ball seemed to be dislodged from his hand before reaching the ground - but to the consternation of the Athletic players the try was awarded. Popham converted to put the Whites 20-5 ahead at halftime.

The second half was a complete contrast to the first. Apart from a five minute spell it was played out entirely in the vansea half. The Athletic scrum had come under pressure – but the introduction of Wayne Fooks steadied the scrum, frustrating the Swansea pack into

conceding a number of penalties at the scrum. Two Swansea props saw yellow cards for scrum infringements.

The second card also saw Athletic prop Matthew Norman assigned to the bin. The constant stop-starts had an effect on slowing the momentum of the Athletic whose pack was completely dominating

play.

The front five of Rod Apsee, Matt Muir, Simon Mustoe, Tom Penry-Ellis, Griff Davies and replacements Wayne Fooks, Matthew Norman and Matthew Hillman were carrying well and tying in the Swansea 8. This gave the back row of Ben Howe, Dan Apsee and Sean Williams the opportunity to link with the backs in open play.
Athletic scrum half

Jake Williams made a 35 metre break and passed to wing Stuart Griffiths who crossed the try line but was held up when trying to ground the ball. The same player was unlucky when fellow wing Dan Howells beat three men but his potential scoring pass was too low for Griffiths

Centre Michael Hathaway and man of the match full back Lyndsey MaCausland also broke the first line of defence on a few

The pressure finally told when from a five metre scrum the Athletic set up a rolling maul and hooker Simon Mustoe went over for his second try joining No 8 Dan Apsee as leading forward scorer for the season with four tries. Evans converted to reduce the deficit to 20-

In the 75th minute centre Tom Morgan broke from 10 metres inside his own half and chipped ahead past the wing. He was illegally held back in pursuit of his kick ahead which produced a penalty for the Athletic and a third yellow card for the Whites

Evans took his time and despite some jeers from the home crowd slotted the penalty to give his side a potential bonus point with a 15-20 deficit. There was no further scoring with the Athletic giving a very gutsy performance and reflecting on what was nearly a famous victory

Team manager Paul Hearne said that although he and the coaches were very pleased with the fight back by the Athletic, if they are to beat the top sides with the quality of Swansea they will need to cut out basic errors and protect the ball better, eliminating turnovers.

This Saturday, February 7, the Athletic entertain local side Tata Steel and on February 14, they visit Blackwood. Following impressive performance in the last six games they can take on these with confidence

PONTYCLUN

2ND XV 7 BRIDGEND **ATHLETIC** 2ND XV 40 Despite Pontyclun 2nd XV fielding a jumbo pack it was the Athletic's 2nds' slickness that carried the day with a six tries

to one, 40-7 victory. Harry Griffiths crossed for two tries with single touchdowns for Scott Jones, Liam Phillips, Josh Miles and Scott Govan, Govan also converted five of the tries for a match haul of

15 points.
The win could have been even more emphatic if the Athletic had better used their two on one situations.

A very successful AGM was held on Friday, January 23.

The chairman for this year will be David Newman, and the secretary Steve Burgovne, Awards for the year's competition prize winners were made as follows:

Club handicap pairs: John Henson and Terry Dolan: and Ierry Dolan; Max Powell Rose Bowl: Irene Thomas and John Whateley; John Raymond Transport Cup: Eleanor Jone, Barrie Jenkins, Linda Pinnock, Dennis Mottram; Summer Cup: David Lea; Club teams: Jon Henson, Geoff Tinkler, David Bowen, David Crompton; Club pairs: Julian Pottage and Tony Radcliffe; Club mixed pairs: Debbie Lea and Dave Lea.

Congratulations to our winners! The club has had a very successful year. The Thursday morning beginner course, which will be completed at the end of March, has proved to be very

Members of this group, who were new to bridge last September, are already attending the Thursday afternoon duplicate session - a measure of their enthusiasm and the excellent tuition they have received! May they have many enjoyable bridge years ahead.

The club would be very happy to welcome visitors and new members at any time. The session times can be found on the club website

The results for Bridgend Bridge Club for recent events are:

BRIDGEND BRIDGE CLUB

Wednesday, January 28 - 1st John Beard and Liam Sheridan, 2nd Alan Heath and Rob Forman, 3rd Irene Thomas and Graham Jones. Winners on handicap John Beard and Liam Sheridan.

Friday, January 30 - 1st Vida Halford and Glyn Williams, 2nd Dave Reed and Jim Hume, 3rd Bryn Gough and Andy Robertshaw. Winners on handicap Dave Reed and Jim Hume.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall. Play is scheduled to commence at 7pm so it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, also at Nolton Church Hall, there is a gentle duplicate session. Master points are now awarded but it remains a relaxed occasion where players enjoy their bridge. Further information can be obtained by calling Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968. John Evans on 01656 880372 or David Newman on 01656 649138.

The adjusted results for Thursday. January 29, were 1st Steve Burgoyne and Stuart Davies, 2nd John Hillman and John Evans, 3rd Christine and







Sports under-9s kept busy with three games!

conditions, Bridgend Sports under-9s faced a triple header on Sunday with a welcome visit from Cowbridge and Llantwit Major; Cowbridge fielded two sides against the Sports.

The first game saw the possess a determined and the irrepressible group of youngsters that Callum Lewis. are growing in In the second half confidence each week Cowbridge started by and are now able to quickly working the ball compete with quality wide for a race to the teams such as Sunday's line, but were thwarted by a cover tookleaf from visitors.

In the first game the Joel Rogers. scoreboard followed the

The

Sports play a very skilful with an opportunity to Cowbridge A side that had players with pace were level at 4.4 at the Cowbridge A side that win the game. In escores had players with pace were level at 4-4 at the and slick handling skills which were used to good the Sports scoring tries effect. Bridgend Sports through Dylam Morgan, under-9s however lestyn John, Joel Rogers possess a determined and the irrepressible around of youngsters that

by a cover tackle from tries each.

attack, ensured Bridgend Sports following a good had scored first, only for now on fire and added final minute Joel Rogers Sports were always in period of play where Cowbridge to regain the two further tries and had showed his pace and eye Callum Lewis. Worrall, Thomas Chick,

Sports' try for the game score out wide. to end all square at six His try, along

scoreboard followed the Sports faced Cowbridge B team possession from the start, counterattacked with Bridgend Sports could a College B team but in a more open and the start of the start sports possession from the start, counterattacked but in a more open game. the Sports players to lift with Bridgend Sports could not hold onto the The first half ended with their game with the Scoring first and then ball and lost possession an identical score line to scores all square again at Cowbridge hitting back deep into the Cowbridge the first game at 4-4 with 6-6.

Dewi lead almost immediately. Bridgend Sports then

Worrall, Inomas Chick, Bridgend Sports then when he offloaded to Dylan Morgan, Cian levelled again through leuan Pilliner for him to John, Joel Rogers, Alex Thomas Chick, who score and for Bridgend Stimpson and Thomas began to have an Sports to win 10-7, 16-13 Coles were always in the increasing influence on overall. thick of things. the game as his Llantwit Major The final quarter of confidence grew. He took provided the final tough

His try, along with an extraordinary defensive performance from Callum Lewis, inspired

from the restarts to level half.

from the restarts to level half.

from the restarts to level half.

Cowbridge then through tries from Dewi cold conditions played a part as the odd pass was the second half to take spilled by both sides.

Callum Lewis, who a period before Callum Lewis, who a period both in defence and the try line for Bridgend by the first score of the first score of the spilled by both in defence and the try line for Bridgend by the second half the sports sooring from this point forward the home team lead twice with tries from never looked back; Alex Mackenzie Dent and Mackenzie Dent.

In the second half the Sports took the orward the home team lead twice with tries from never looked back; Alex Mackenzie Dent and Mackenzie Dent.

In the second half through tries from Dewi orward the home team lead twice with tries from never looked back; Alex Mackenzie Dent and Mackenzie Dent.

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In the second half through tries from Dewi orward the home team lead twice with tries from never looked back; Alex Mackenzie Dent and Mackenzie Dent.

Thomas Chick was to the wire at 4-4, in the

a hand in the final score when he offloaded to Ieuan Pilliner for him to

Action from Bridgend Sports' encounter with Cowbridge.

the first game saw both the ball on the halfway test of the day at the end second win of the sides compete well and line, sprinted and on an of a long morning of morning with the game score one try each with arching run swerved rugby Llantwit proved to ending 5-4.

Joel Rogers claiming the outside defenders to be equally as tough It was an excellent opponents as the two morning of quality rugby, Cowbridge teams. The played in great spirt by away team raced into a 2-0 lead before Cian John scored first for the Sports clubs. and then a further score from Ben King brought the scores level.

In the second half point Bridgend Sports took the e team lead twice with tries from k; Alex Mackenzie Dent and @SportsMiniRugby, for next for Thomas Chick; Llantwit further information on

showed his pace and eye

for the gap as the scored the winning try.

Llantwit Major almost secured a draw with the final movement of the game, but just spilled the ball forward and the home team secured their

all teams and players who were a credit to their

This week the Sports are home to Porthcawl at Newbridge Fields -training is on Wednesday

the training venue.



THE WELSH SQUAD GET SET FOR A MOMENTOUS CAMPAIGN



The train standing at Cardiff station on February 6 will be the 20.05, terminating in Twickenham at 20.00 on September 26

T'S the one rugby supporters on both sides of the Severn most look forward to as winter starts to loosen its grip – Wales versus England in the Six Nations – but the 126th clash between these two arch rivals, at the bizarre time of 8.05pm in Cardiff tomorrow night, has more than national pride at stake.

For this just happens to be Rugby World Cup year and the two are drawn to meet in Pool D of the global knockout tournament at Twickenham on September 26 - which could see one of them make an unwelcome early exit.

Both will aim to use the Millennium Stadium face-off, not only to launch their bid for the coveted Six Nations title, but also to implant early doubts in the minds of their opponents – and complete a morale-boosting psychological 'double' long before the RWC tournament kicks off.

Both sides also know full well the scale of the challenge facing them. After all, in a seesaw 125 years since February 19 1881 (when England defeated a cobbled together Welsh XV 30-0), the Dragon has triumphed 56 times and amassed a total of 1,450 points; while the Rose has blossomed 57 times, and totalled 1,640 points - with 12 matches drawn

After the initial setback, the early years were dominated by Wales' first golden era, and subsequently the '70s 'super side' reigned supreme, when Doctor JPR (he of the headband, sideburns and rolled down socks!) was the scourge of Twickenham).

Things began to take an ominous turn in the '80s, and the Welsh Dark Ages of the '90s finally saw the pendulum swing to allpowerful England, who won 16 games to Wales' two between 1990-2004. The stranglehold was briefly broken with the first Welsh Grand Slam of the modern era in 2005 under Mike Ruddock, who was

BACK PAGE COMMENT

by Don John

succeeded by Gareth Jenkins - which two vears later, saw a mix-and-match Welsh team blown apart (62-5) at Twickenham, just weeks before setting off to the Rugby World Cup in France.

There they suffered the even more public ignominy of an early flight home after being unwisely sucked into a Barbarians-like try fest by so-called international minnows, Fiji.

It saw the peremptory dismissal of Jenkins and his replacement by current coach, Kiwi Warren Gatland, who made an immediate impact with a shock win (26-19) at fortress Twickenham, launching the first of two more Grand Slams – in 2008 and 2012.

He and his coaching team have since cemented the rebirth of Welsh rugby, albeit in a major shift from traditional, off-the-cuff Welsh play to the more hard-nosed confrontational style favoured in this

ruthlessly professional era.
In boxing terms, it is more akin to Rocky Marciano than stylish Joe Erskine!

This was shown to devastating effect in the corresponding fixture two years ago, when high-flying England came to Cardiff hunting a Grand Slam and were crushed 30-3, amid unprecedented scenes in a white-hot Millennium Stadium, Wales wresting the championship from their stunned grasp.

The boot was on the other foot in this

topsy-turvy tale of two cities at Twickenham last year, when the men in white had their revenge in a 29-18 victory that this time deprived Wales of the title! On Wednesday, canny Gatland completely

wrong-footed the English camp (and the entire sporting media) with a neat sidestep more reminiscent of the great Phil Bennett himself than an ex member of the front row union, by suddenly announcing his team

sheet on Monday, a full 48 hours earlier than expected.

Shrugging off any suggestion that he was playing one of his famous mind games, he merely said: "We decided to name the team early to give the players the best possible chance of preparation." Explaining why he had reverted to his

tried and tested line-up by recalling 'exiles' George North and Richard Hibbard, he admitted: "It was a tough call on the two changes we have made to the side that beat South Africa 12-6 in the autumn (the in-form Scarlets' full back, Liam Williams and Ospreys hooker Scott Baldwin) but it's good to have these and other tough selection decisions and it's a strong position to be in.

"We are excited about kicking off on Friday against a strong England side in front of a packed Millennium Stadium," he added without a hint of irony, given that the injury-hit England camp are shorn of a dozen front rank players, while for once Wales will be fielding his preferred line-up.

Thus the scene appears to be set for a repeat of that memorable 2013 triumph. with the Welsh shock troops again poised to overwhelm their depleted rivals from over the border with another powerhouse display – and surmount the first hurdle to a possible fourth Grand Slam, which would set them up very nicely to pursue Gatland's fixed goal – and rugby's 'holy grail' – the Webb Ellis Cup.

A heady scenario, but the wily campaigner knows only too well that it would be foolish to underestimate the formidable strength in depth of opponents, who, despite an alarming injury list that would decimate Wales were the situation reversed, are still capable of overcoming the odds against

them. Always provided, of course, they can overcome the paralysing effect of a mind-numbing, hostile Millennium Stadium in full voice, which undid them two years ago.

In the circumstances, how the two teams have prepared, for what both accept is an encounter of huge psycbological importance, could be crucial to the outcome.

Curiously, and with one eye on the World Cup campaign, the Welsh coaches appear to have needed to concentrate on improving the players' physical fitness – which in a professional age should surely be taken as

That this is deemed necessary, puts a question mark over the four professional Regions, in particular, and may go some way to explaining their continued lack of success at the highest levels in Europe.

The English, on the other hand, though without many of their first choice players, have no such concerns, for the replacements come buoyant and match-hardened from more successful battles in Europe.

Even so, Wales know they will never have a better opportunity to down the old enemy. All in all, it promises to be another enthralling occasion for the Millennium Stadium faithful!

WALES TEAM Leigh Halfpenny (Toulon); Alex Cuthbert (Blues), Jonathan Davies (ASM Clermont Auvergne), Jamie Roberts (Racing Metro), George North (Northampton Saints); Dan Biggar (Ospreys), Rhys Webb (Ospreys); Gethin Jenkins (Blues), Richard Hibbard (Gloucester), Samson Lee (Scarlets), Jake Ball (Scarlets), Alun Wyn Jones (Ospreys), Sam Warburton

Alun Wyn Jones (Ospreys), Sam Warburton (Blues, Capt), Dan Lydiate (Ospreys), Taulupe Faletau (Dragons).
REPLACEMENTS: Scott Baldwin (Ospreys), Paul James (Bath Rugby), Aaron Jarvis (Ospreys), Luke Charteris (Racing Metro), Justin Tipuric (Ospreys), Mike Phillips (Racing Metro), Rhys Priestland (Scarlets), Liam Williams (Scarlets).